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Hyderabad to Become a Magnificent City with Elevated Corridors, Says CM Revanth

Hyderabad, March 23, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has unveiled an ambitious plan to transform Hyderabad into a world-class, traffic-free city through the construction of elevated corridors and comprehensive urban infrastructure improvements. Speaking in the Legislative Council, he emphasized that the city's rapid population growth and rising income levels have resulted in increased private vehicle usage, causing significant traffic congestion.

To address these challenges, the government has devised a multi-pronged approach that includes elevated road corridors, underpasses, expanded metro services, and improved MMTS networks. These initiatives are aimed at reducing travel time, easing daily commutes, and enhancing overall connectivity within the city. The elevated corridors will connect key urban areas, including Shamirpet and Medchal, allowing vehicles to move efficiently without unnecessary stops at intersections.

The plan divides the city's road infrastructure into three layers — underpasses, surface-level roads, and elevated corridors — to ensure smooth traffic flow and minimize delays. In addition to improving mobility, the government is working to relocate pollution-causing industries outside the Outer Ring Road, promoting a cleaner and more sustainable urban



environment.

As part of the broader vision, titled "Telangana Rising 2047", the initiative seeks to make Hyderabad more liveable, modern, and globally competitive. The metro network is also set to be expanded by an additional 76 kilometers, increasing public transportation options and further reducing dependence on private vehicles. Discussions with central agencies regarding land acquisition and project approvals are underway to ensure the timely implementation of these projects.

The Chief Minister highlighted that the combination of elevated corridors, underpasses, and radial link roads will not only address long-standing traffic bottlenecks but also modernize Hyderabad's transport system to meet the demands of a growing city. The government aims to integrate these initiatives with smart urban planning measures to create a seamless, efficient, and sustainable urban

ecosystem.

Revanth Reddy emphasized that this transformation is part of a vision to position Hyderabad as a smart, world-class city that offers both economic opportunities and a high quality of life. By investing in state-of-the-art infrastructure and sustainable urban planning, the government is working to ensure that Hyderabad not only meets current mobility needs but is also prepared for future growth, making it a model for urban development across India.

The Chief Minister called upon all stakeholders, including civic authorities, transport agencies, and citizens, to actively participate in realizing this vision, ensuring Hyderabad becomes a magnificent, modern, and efficiently connected city.

This plan marks a significant step toward achieving a futuristic urban environment that balances mobility, sustainability, and quality of life.



Kishan Reddy Responds in Rajya Sabha on Coal Sector Progress

New Delhi, March 23, 2026 | TPN Bureau

In today's Rajya Sabha session, Union Minister Kishan Reddy answered questions regarding the coal ministry and highlighted the transformative steps taken by the NDA government under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership.

Earlier, coal blocks were allocated merely on paper, leading to inefficiencies and corruption. Since the NDA government came to power, the entire coal sector has been reformed, with coal blocks now allocated transparently through auctions. Thermal power, which produces 73% of India's electricity, relies heavily on coal. Previously, severe power shortages affected households, industries, and agriculture. Today, India faces no electricity deficit, largely due to efficient coal supply. Coal is also being continuously supplied to cement, steel, and fertilizer industries.

India has nearly 70 years' worth of coal reserves, ranking fifth globally. In terms of coal produc-

tion and consumption, India is second in the world, and Coal India remains the largest coal-producing company worldwide.

To protect the environment and reduce pollution, the government has introduced coal gasification technology. Seven new projects are being launched for the first time since independence, with four already having had their land rituals performed. These projects, costing ₹64,000 crore, are located in Maharashtra (4), Odisha (2), and West Bengal (1). Coal gasification is expected to reduce coal imports, and incentives are being provided to promote this technology.

Prime Minister Modi has emphasized the scientific closure of coal mines. Accordingly, 143 mines are being systematically closed, with 143 nodal officers dedicated to overseeing the process. Committees under district collectors are monitoring the work, ensuring development activities continue in these regions. By 2028, all 143 mines are expected to be closed, and development projects will be completed, providing increased employment opportunities for local communities.

Bhatti Vikramarka Addresses Employee Welfare, Highlights Reforms and Pending Arrears



Hyderabad, March 23 | TPN Bureau

Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka responded to questions from BRS MLAs regarding government employees' welfare, emphasizing the current administration's commitment to improving working conditions and promptly addressing pending dues.

He highlighted that under the previous BRS government, employee salaries were often delayed, sometimes credited only after the 15th of the month. Since the new government assumed office, salaries are being credited on the 1st without delay. Additionally, three pending Dearness Allowances (DAs) left unpaid by the previous administration have been cleared.

The Deputy CM noted that the prior government had increased the retirement age—from 58 to 61 for most employees and from 60 to 61 for Class IV employees—to postpone the burden of retirement benefits. As a result, the present government now carries the responsibility of providing retirement benefits for around 17,000 employees.

Medical benefits for employees have also been a priority. Pending medical bills left by the BRS government have been cleared, and cashless medical treatment cards are being introduced, a measure long demanded by employee unions over the past decade. In cases of accidental death, the government has implemented an accident insurance scheme providing ₹1.20 crore to the family of the de-

ceased employee.

Deputy CM Vikramarka revealed that the previous administration left arrears totaling ₹40,150 crore, of which ₹4,575 crore pertained to employee dues. Since coming to power, the government has been paying approximately ₹700 crore monthly to clear these arrears, with plans to increase this to ₹1,000 crore to expedite the process. In total, around ₹6,146 crore has already been disbursed for employee-related payments.

Regarding future salary revisions, the Deputy CM confirmed that once the Pay Revision Commission (PRC) report is received, a decision will be taken on implementing the new pay structure. Currently, four DAs remain pending, and policy decisions on these will be made shortly.

Vikramarka underscored the government's open approach to employee relations, noting that unions have full freedom to meet the Chief Minister, Deputy Chief Minister, or other ministers at any time. This contrasts with restrictions and administrative hurdles faced during the previous BRS government, which he said had weakened systems and created financial instability.

He concluded by emphasizing that the government is working collaboratively with employees, ensuring timely salaries, medical support, retirement benefits, and transparent communication, reflecting a people-centric approach and a commitment to restoring employee confidence in the administration.

Telangana Cabinet Approves Gig Workers Welfare Bill

Hyderabad, March 23 | TPN Bureau

In a landmark decision, the Telangana Cabinet has approved the Telangana Gig and Platform Workers (Registration, Social Security and Welfare) Bill, 2025, aimed at providing legal protection and social security benefits to gig economy workers across the state. The move is expected to formalize rights for workers engaged through digital platforms such as ride hailing, delivery services, and app based logistics.

Gig and platform workers, who operate outside traditional employment structures, have grown in number as the digital

economy expands. These include drivers, delivery partners, and home service providers, many of whom currently lack basic employment protections such as social security, wage clarity, health coverage, and job stability.

Under the new law, workers will be registered with a dedicated Gig and Platform Workers Welfare Board. The board will manage social security schemes, maintain worker records, and oversee welfare funds. This permanent institutional framework will ensure targeted benefits for gig workers across the state.

A key provision of the bill requires platform companies to contribute a welfare fee to support the social security fund,

along with government grants. The fund will provide workers with benefits including insurance coverage, health and maternity support, old-age protection, and other welfare measures, gradually strengthening their financial security.

The bill also emphasizes transparency in the use of algorithms by platform companies. Workers will have access to information on how automated systems affect job allocation, fare calculations, incentives, and ratings, reducing ambiguity in earnings and work assignments.

Once enacted, Telangana will become one of the first Indian states to introduce a comprehensive legal framework for gig and

platform workers. The law is expected to benefit an estimated three to four lakh workers in the state, improving job security, safeguarding rights, and providing a structured mechanism for welfare in the rapidly expanding gig economy.

The government has highlighted that this legislation aligns with broader goals of promoting inclusive growth, protecting marginalized workers, and ensuring that the benefits of the digital economy reach all sections of society. With this initiative, Telangana sets a precedent for other states to follow, balancing innovation in the gig sector with social justice and worker protection.

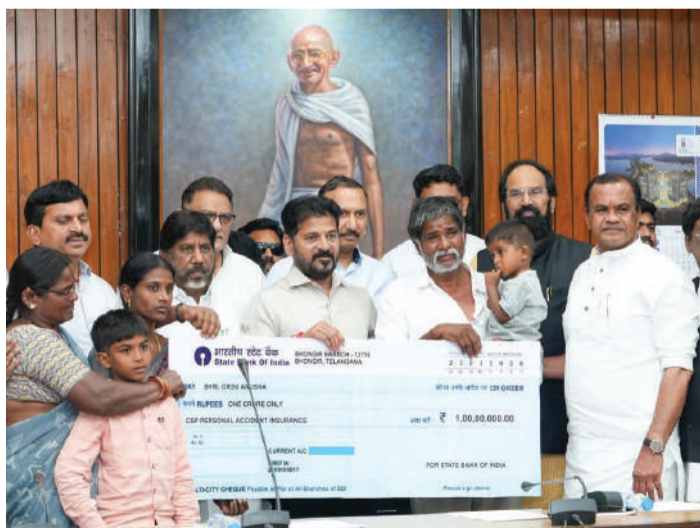
Telangana Introduces ₹1.20 Crore Accident Insurance for Government Employees' Families

Hyderabad, March 23 | TPN Bureau

In a historic first for the country, the Telangana government has launched an unprecedented accident insurance scheme for government employees, ensuring financial security for families in the event of an untimely death while on duty. Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka handed over ₹1 crore insurance cheques to families of deceased electricity employees at a program held in the Assembly Hall.

Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka described the initiative as a landmark decision, noting that no other state in India has implemented a scheme of this scale for employee welfare. "When a government employee dies in the line of duty, the family often faces severe financial challenges," he said, adding that the government's goal is to prevent any family from being left helpless.

The ₹1.20 crore accident insurance covers over 51,000 em-



ployees in power utilities, 41,000 employees in Singareni Collieries, and approximately 7.57 lakh government employees and pensioners' families across Telangana. The scheme was initially launched as a pilot project in Singareni, SPDCL, NPDCL, and Transco, prioritizing the welfare of electricity employees.

As part of the program, insurance cheques have been provided to families of em-

ployees such as Varusa Suresh, Assistant Lineman in Southern Power Distribution Company, who passed away on October 10, 2025, and Mukhtar Beg, an artisan in the Civil Division of Mahabubnagar Circle, who passed away on April 19, 2025. Bhatti Vikramarka paid tribute to their service, acknowledging their sacrifice in the line of duty.

Highlighting the government's commitment to com-

prehensive welfare, the Deputy CM also emphasized the introduction of the Indiramma Family Life Insurance Scheme, which provides ₹5 lakh coverage to each of 1.15 crore families in Telangana, irrespective of income. This program aims to offer financial protection to families from all economic backgrounds, including poor, middle-class, and affluent households.

The event saw participation from prominent ministers and officials, including Uttam Kumar Reddy, Sridhar Babu, Tummala Nageswara Rao, Komatireddy Venkat Reddy, Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, Seethakka, Jupally Krishna Rao, Gaddam Vivek, Azharuddin, and Energy Secretary Naveen Mittal.

Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka reaffirmed that the government remains committed to employee welfare and financial security, ensuring that no family in Telangana suffers due to the loss of a government employee, setting a national benchmark for public sector employee protection.



Grand Celebrations of World Forestry Day at Dhulapalli Telangana Forest Academy

Dhulapalli, 23rd March 2026 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana Forest Academy at Dhulapalli celebrated World Forestry Day with grandeur under the leadership of Academy Director Priyanka Varghese. The event was graced by Chief Guest, Minister for Forest, Environment and Endowments Konda Surekha, Principal Secretary of Forests, Environment and Science & Technology Ahmad Nadeem, Chief Conservator of Forests Dr. C. Suvarna, and Raja Bahadur Venkata Ramareddy Police Academy Director Abhilash Bisht. The program commenced with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp.

Minister Konda Surekha emphasized that forest conservation is everyone's responsibility and serves as the foundation of life. She highlighted that air, water, food, and biodiversity all depend on nature. Quoting the adage "Vriksho Rakshati Rakshitah," she stressed that protecting trees ensures a secure future. Expressing concern over urbanization and industrial expansion reducing forest cover, she warned of growing challenges like climate change and water scarcity. She also noted the Telangana government's extensive tree-planting campaigns under Vanamahotsavam and urged citizens to plant at



least one tree per household.

Chief Conservator of Forests Dr. Suvarna highlighted that forests are indispensable for human survival and that natural forests take centuries to develop, making them invaluable resources. She acknowledged the challenges posed by wildfires, poaching, and encroach-

ments, emphasizing the need for public participation alongside the tireless efforts of forest personnel.

Principal Secretary Ahmad Nadeem stated that forests are critical for environmental balance and praised the frontline staff for their dedicated work in forest protection. IPS officer Abhilash Bisht called

for increased public awareness about environmental conservation, noting the rising risks of landslides, floods, and climate change, and suggested specialized courses on environment and climate change at the Police Academy.

During the event, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Telangana State Forest Academy and the Raja Bahadur Venkata Ramareddy Telangana Police Academy, Himayat Sagar, for collaboration in training, skill development, faculty exchange, and sharing scientific and technical knowledge. A joint academic board will oversee coordination and training opportunities for trainees.

Minister Konda Surekha also honored officials and NGOs for their exceptional contributions to forest and wildlife conservation. She laid foundation stones for new development projects at the academy, including the main entrance, swimming pool, and cafeteria.

Senior officials attending the event included PCCF (Wildlife) Vinay Kumar, PCCF (Development) Ratnakar Johri, CCF (Admin) S.J. Asha, CCF (Camp) Kshitij, Deputy Director of the Academy Rekha Bhanu, and Gangireddy, among others.

Ponnam Prabhakar Inaugurates Telangana's VAHAN Portal to Modernize Vehicle Services

Hyderabad, March 23 | TPN Bureau

In a major initiative to modernize vehicle management, Transport Minister Ponnam Prabhakar inaugurated the VAHAN portal at Begumpet's Varun Motors. The digital platform aims to centralize vehicle registration, ownership transfer, tax payments, and other transport-related services in a unified national database, making processes faster, transparent, and more accessible to citizens.

The launch was attended by Special Chief Secretary Vikas Raj, Transport Commissioner Ilambarthi, JTCS officials Chandrashekar Goud, Ramesh, Shivalingayya, NIC representative Jagdeep, Varun Motors' head Varun, DTC officials, and other senior transport department officials.

Minister Prabhakar described the VAHAN portal as a revolutionary step by the Telangana government, part of a broader set of reforms introduced since the formation of the current government. He highlighted that the portal will allow the state to efficiently manage the approximately 1,500 new vehicles that are added daily to Telangana's roads. From today, citizens purchasing a second or subse-



quent personal vehicle will receive a 2% reduction in lifetime vehicle tax, offering financial relief to vehicle owners.

The minister noted that previous systems required vehicle registration through transport offices, but reforms now allow transparent registration directly at showrooms. Additionally, the government has implemented EV policies, scrap policies, and initiatives to ensure road

safety and environmental sustainability. Electric vehicles registered under the VAHAN portal will strengthen Telangana's reputation as a progressive state in green transport.

Prabhakar emphasized that the portal will support efficient traffic management and road safety planning, and provide accurate data to inform future policies. Citizens will also benefit from services coordi-

nated with dealerships, ensuring quick and hassle-free registration. The government encourages showrooms to educate buyers on road safety, provide helmets for two-wheelers, and distribute trees to vehicle buyers to reduce pollution.

The initiative also complements reforms in the Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TSRTC), including new bus purchases, employee recruitment, depot expansions, and service upgrades under the Maha Lakshmi scheme. These measures aim to improve commuter convenience, job security for transport employees, and overall public satisfaction.

Special Chief Secretary Vikas Raj praised the government for implementing national-level programs locally and emphasized the importance of providing fully online services without any inconvenience to citizens. The VAHAN portal is expected to significantly enhance efficiency, transparency, and accessibility in vehicle-related services across Telangana.

Minister Prabhakar called on citizens and stakeholders to fully utilize the portal and participate in building a digitally empowered, modern transport ecosystem.

Konda Surekha Meets Governor, Invites Him to Bhadrachalam Sri Sita Rama Kalyanam



Hyderabad, March 23, 2026 | TPN Bureau

State Forest, Environment, and Endowments Minister Konda Surekha today met Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla at Lok Bhavan in a formal and cordial interaction. The purpose of the meeting was to extend a personal invitation to the Governor for the upcoming Sri Sita Ramachandra Swamy Kalyanam celebrations at the Bhadrachalam Sri Sita Ramachandra Swamy Temple, scheduled for March 27.

During the meeting, Minister Surekha, accompanied by temple priests and senior officials from the Endowments Department, presented the official invitation to the Governor. She elaborated on the significance of this sacred event, highlighting that it is one of the most revered religious festivals in Telangana, attracting devotees not only from across the state but also from all corners of the country. The minister emphasized that the Kalyanam is conducted with deep devotion and grandeur, making it a cultural and spiritual landmark that strengthens faith and community participation.

Minister Surekha assured the Governor that the state government has undertaken comprehensive preparations to ensure the smooth conduct of the festival. She highlighted measures being taken to facilitate the arrival and accommodation of thousands of pilgrims, maintain public safety, and provide es-

sential services, ensuring that devotees can participate in the celebrations without any inconvenience. The minister noted that government teams have been coordinating with temple authorities to streamline arrangements and uphold the sanctity of the rituals.

She also underscored the cultural and spiritual value of the festival, explaining that the event reflects Telangana's rich heritage and continues to play a vital role in preserving traditional rituals, music, and devotional practices. Minister Surekha invited the Governor to witness the ceremonial events, including the ritualistic lighting of lamps, processions, and other customary observances that form the heart of the Kalyanam.

Accompanying the minister were Ilandu MLA Koram Kanakayya, Endowments Department Chief Secretary Shailaja Ramayya, Commissioner Hanamant Rao, and senior temple priests. Their presence highlighted the collaborative efforts between the government and temple authorities to ensure the festival's successful execution.

The meeting reinforced the government's commitment to promoting religious and cultural events while ensuring the safety, comfort, and convenience of devotees. Minister Surekha expressed hope that the Governor would attend the grand celebrations, further strengthening the state's longstanding traditions and spiritual legacy.

Over 22 Lakh Students Apply for TG EAPCET 2026

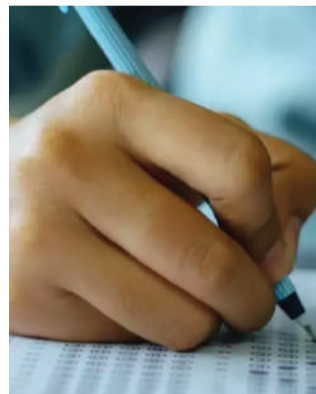
Hyderabad, March 23, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Telangana has recorded a massive response for the TG EAPCET 2026, with over 22 lakh applications submitted for the state's Engineering, Agriculture, and Pharmacy Common Entrance Test. Officials confirmed that this is among the highest participation levels in recent years, reflecting the growing aspirations of students and parents for professional education.

The TG EAPCET serves as the key gateway for admission to undergraduate courses in engineering, agriculture, and pharmacy across Telangana. Applications poured in from students in both urban and rural areas, aided by increased awareness campaigns and outreach by educational institutions.

The examination, scheduled for April-May, will cover subjects such as mathematics, physics, chemistry, biology and agricultural sciences, depending on the candidate's chosen stream. Results will determine eligibility and seat allocation for the upcoming academic year.

Authorities have strengthened infrastructure at exam centres to accommodate the high number of candidates, ensuring a smooth and fair testing process. Additional seating, proper supervision, and robust security measures for question papers are in place to maintain transparency and fairness. Special arrangements are being made



for differently-abled students to ensure equal access.

Students and parents expressed both excitement and apprehension, highlighting months of rigorous preparation. Coaching centres and online platforms reported increased engagement, with test simulations and focused revision modules helping students get ready for the examination.

The Education Department has now moved into the next phase of logistical planning, including hall ticket issuance, seating arrangements, and scheduling. Officials stressed that the priority is to conduct the exam efficiently while maintaining a safe and orderly environment.

With record participation, TG EAPCET 2026 is set to be one of the most competitive entrance tests in the state, shaping the future academic and professional journeys of thousands of Telangana's youth.

Ponnam Prabhakar on Smart Cards for Maha Lakshmi Beneficiaries



Hyderabad, March 23 | TPN Bureau

In response to questions raised in the Legislative Assembly regarding smart cards under the Maha Lakshmi scheme, Minister Ponnam Prabhakar detailed the state government's efforts to streamline beneficiary services and strengthen public transport.

The Telangana Technology Services (TGTS) and the Center for Good Governance (CGG), along with self-help groups, the education department, and health department databases, are coordinating to collect beneficiary data from multiple sources for issuing smart cards. The smart cards aim to ensure transparency and efficient delivery of benefits to Maha Lakshmi recipients.

Addressing concerns about the government's commitment to the welfare of TSRTC employees, ensuring passenger comfort, and maintaining the corporation as a lifeline for rural areas. He noted that after the implementation of the Maha Lakshmi scheme, over 85% operational readiness has been achieved in the corporation.

"The government continues to fund TSRTC regularly, and our priority remains strengthening the corporation, ensuring employee welfare, and providing reliable transport to every village," he added.

scrapped, and 250 employees who were previously permanently removed have been reinstated following a committee review. Additionally, 600 buses have been handed to women's associations to operate as owners, promoting inclusivity and empowerment.

The minister emphasized that the government is also introducing electric buses under the PM e-Drive initiative and expanding services to meet growing demand in various regions, including 349 new routes in Hyderabad. Workers' salaries, arrears, and benefits such as CCS and PF are being settled, while discussions continue on employee mergers and recognition issues with associations.

Prabhakar reaffirmed the government's commitment to the welfare of TSRTC employees, ensuring passenger comfort, and maintaining the corporation as a lifeline for rural areas. He noted that after the implementation of the Maha Lakshmi scheme, over 85% operational readiness has been achieved in the corporation.

"The government continues to fund TSRTC regularly, and our priority remains strengthening the corporation, ensuring employee welfare, and providing reliable transport to every village," he added.

BRS to Introduce Private Member Bill for Statutory Backing to Six Guarantees



Hyderabad, March 23, 2026 | TPN Bureau

The Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) has announced its intention to introduce a Private Member Bill in the upcoming session of the Telangana Legislative Assembly seeking statutory backing for the "Six Guarantees" promised by the Congress party during the last state elections. The proposal aims to compel the ruling government to legally enshrine the guarantees, which have been a central point of political debate and criticism since the Congress assumed power.

BRS working president K. T. Rama Rao unveiled the party's plan and said that the private bill will put pressure on the government to deliver on its commitments and give legislative force to promises that voters were assured during the campaign. The six guarantees include a range of welfare measures that were widely publicized, but the BRS leadership has repeatedly claimed they lack legal protection and clear implementation deadlines.

According to BRS leaders, the absence of statutory backing makes the guarantees vulnerable to delays and partial fulfilment. They argue that codifying the promises into law will ensure accountability and protect the interests of the people who supported them. The party has criticised the ruling Congress government for its performance so far, asserting that several key pledges remain

unimplemented or are being rolled out slowly.

By moving a Private Member Bill, the BRS seeks to elevate the discussion on governance and the legal status of electoral assurances. Such bills, introduced by legislators who are not part of the government, are rare but act as a tool to challenge the administration's policies and priorities. The BRS leadership has framed the step as part of its responsibility to hold the government accountable and to provide constructive political opposition.

Political analysts say the proposed bill reflects ongoing tensions between the BRS and the ruling Congress, particularly over welfare schemes and their execution. The BRS has consistently accused the government of failing to honour its commitments, while the Congress leadership has defended its decisions, saying implementation is underway within administrative and financial constraints.

The announcement has already sparked discussions across political circles, with both supporters and critics weighing in on the role of statutory backing for electoral guarantees. If moved, the Private Member Bill is expected to generate intense debate during the assembly session, highlighting the deepening contest over welfare policy and political accountability in Telangana's evolving political landscape.

MLA Eerlapalli Shankar Assumes OBC Cell Chairmanship; Mahesh Kumar Goud Highlights BC Empowerment



Hyderabad, March 23 | TPN Bureau

In a significant event at Gandhi Bhavan, MLA Eerlapalli Shankar took charge as the chairman of the Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) OBC Cell. The ceremony witnessed speeches from senior leaders, including TPCC Chief MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud, who underscored the party's commitment to empowering Backward Classes (BCs) in Telangana.

Speaking at the event, Mahesh Kumar Goud criticized opposition parties, particularly the BJP, for being anti-BC and highlighted the importance of unity among BC communities. He asserted that a BC candidate from Congress could occupy the Chief Minister's post in the future, emphasizing the party's progressive approach toward representation and inclusivity.

Goud noted that under Congress leadership, approximately 65% of BCs have been appointed as chairpersons, while 60% of SC/ST and BC communities hold key district-level leadership positions. The party has also secured 67% of BC Sarpanch seats in local elections. He stressed that unity among BCs is crucial to achieving political milestones and consolidating power at both local and state levels.

The TPCC leader lauded Eerlapalli Shankar for his organizational skills, asserting that under his lead-

ership, the OBC cell will gain greater strength and play a pivotal role in the party's strategies. He added that BC participation has been central in every political struggle and is key to ensuring Congress's victory in future elections.

Mahesh Kumar Goud also highlighted the party's commitment to social justice, pointing to historic measures such as the BC reservation bill, which provides 42% representation, and emphasized that only under the leadership of Rahul Gandhi, Sonia Gandhi, and CM Revanth Reddy can justice for BCs be ensured. He criticized the previous BRS government for alleged mismanagement and said Congress aims to reclaim over 140 seats in the next elections if delimitation occurs.

The event celebrated the historical significance of initiatives like the Sanna Biyyam program, which provided food security, contrasting it with alleged mismanagement during BRS's decade-long rule. Leaders reiterated the importance of empowering marginalized communities and reaffirmed Congress's commitment to inclusive governance.

The ceremony concluded with a call for unity among BCs, active participation in the party's programs, and a collective effort to strengthen Congress's organizational and electoral base across Telangana.

Bhatti Rejects Harish Rao's Claims on Revenue Shortfall



Hyderabad, March 23, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka on Monday strongly refuted claims made by BRS deputy floor leader T. Harish Rao regarding an alleged shortfall in revenue collections from the Stamps and Registration Department. Speaking during the Budget session in the Telangana Legislative Assembly, Bhatti described the allegations as baseless and misleading, asserting that the current government has managed the state's finances transparently and efficiently.

Bhatti detailed that for the 2024-25 financial year, the Stamps and Registration Department generated 14,250 crore in revenue. Out of this, 5,740 crore was allocated to municipalities and corporations to ensure local bodies had sufficient funds to maintain essential public services. He emphasized that the government has followed established procedures in distributing these funds and has acted in full compliance with the law.

The Deputy Chief Minister criticized the previous BRS administration, claiming that between 2020 and 2025, it deliberately withheld the transfer of registration revenues to local bodies. According to Bhatti, the earlier government reported these amounts solely as "stamp duty revenue," which created a distorted picture of state finances and obscured the actual flow of funds to municipalities and corporations. He said that such administrative practices caused unnecessary confusion and limited resources for local governance.

Bhatti also highlighted issues re-

lated to the Dharani portal and land records under the BRS regime. He stated that several lands distributed to farmers were placed in the Part B category, which made regularization of titles and access to government benefits cumbersome. This, he argued, created hardships for landowners and exposed the inefficiencies of the previous administration in addressing farmer welfare and property registration processes.

The Deputy Chief Minister reiterated that the current government has taken all necessary steps to ensure transparency in revenue collection, allocation, and fund transfers. He emphasized that opposition criticism should not mislead the public, noting that accountability, timely reporting, and proper distribution of funds remain top priorities for his government.

Bhatti's comments reflect the ongoing political tussle between the ruling party and the BRS, with both sides highlighting governance performance and fiscal management. The Deputy CM's rebuttal is intended to reinforce public confidence in government operations, ensure that local bodies receive proper funding, and underscore the state's commitment to supporting citizens and administrative transparency.

The Assembly session is expected to continue discussions on revenue allocation, local body funding, and the government's efforts to correct past administrative lapses, with a focus on strengthening governance and public service delivery across Telangana.

Telangana BJP President, Cadre Taken into Custody During Assembly Protest

Hyderabad, March 23, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Telangana BJP State President Ranchand Rao and several party workers were taken into custody by police on Monday while staging a protest near the Telangana Legislative Assembly against the Congress government's policies. Demonstrators gathered to express their displeasure with the state administration's governance and alleged failure to fulfil key promises made to the public.

The protest began in the city's Nampally area, where hundreds of BJP workers marched towards the Assembly premises chanting slogans against the government. They raised issues concerning economic hardships, alleged corruption, and unfulfilled assurances, including the implementation of welfare commitments that were part of electoral pledges.

Ranchand Rao, who led the protest, attempted to move closer to the Assembly entrance with his supporters, but police intercepted the march citing law and order concerns. Authorities detained the BJP president and a group of cadre members to prevent any escalation near the sensitive legislative complex. The protesters were reportedly asked to disperse several times, but they continued chanting and expressing their demands, prompting police action.

During the protests, BJP leaders accused the ruling Congress party of failing to deliver on public expectations, particularly with re-



gard to job creation, development projects, and social welfare schemes. They alleged that repeated government delays had eroded public confidence and warranted a strong response from the opposition. Ranchand Rao reiterated the party's criticism in statements to the media, insisting that the protest was peaceful and aimed at holding the government accountable.

Police officials maintained that the detentions were preventive in

nature and carried out to avoid disruption of public order and ensure the safety of lawmakers and citizens around the Assembly precinct. They clarified that the protesters were temporarily taken into custody and would be released after appropriate legal procedures.

BJP workers condemned their arrests, saying that democratic rights to protest and express dissent should be respected. They also warned that the party would continue pressing for accountabil-

ity and renewal of public trust through further demonstrations if issues remain unaddressed.

The detentions reflect ongoing political tensions in the state as opposition parties intensify criticism of the state government's performance. The BJP has signalled its intent to maintain pressure on issues of governance and development in the lead up to future elections, asserting that citizen grievances must be heard and acted upon by the authorities.

Telangana Emerges as a Global Rice Market, Says Uttam in Assembly

Hyderabad, March 23, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Telangana has successfully positioned itself as a major player in the global rice market, Assembly proceedings were told on Monday by Agriculture Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy. Speaking during a debate in the Legislature, he highlighted the state's achievements in paddy production, procurement, and export promotion, underscoring how agricultural reforms and focused policy support have strengthened the rice economy.

Addressing lawmakers, Minister Uttam said that Telangana's rise as a significant rice market is the result of sustained efforts by farmers, government agencies, and strategic policy interventions. He explained that through enhanced procurement operations, improved storage infrastructure, and strong market linkages, the state has not only met domestic food security needs but also boosted its presence in international trade.

Uttam Kumar Reddy pointed out that the state government's initiatives have ensured that farmers get fair and remunerative prices for their crops. He lauded the dedicated efforts of procurement agencies and mandal level officials for



implementing efficient procurement systems, which have helped maintain adequate stocks and facilitated timely payments to farmers. This, he said, has directly contributed to improving farmers' incomes and stabilizing the agricultural sector.

The Minister also highlighted the role of quality control meas-

ures and modern post harvest facilities, which have enabled Telangana's rice produce to compete effectively in international markets. By adopting better milling practices and conforming to global standards, shipments of rice abroad have increased, further strengthening the state's reputation as a reliable supplier.

Uttam stressed that such achievements are part of a broader roadmap to empower the farming community, boost agrarian growth, and enhance livelihoods in rural areas. He reiterated the government's commitment to advancing agricultural technologies, improving irrigation facilities, and expanding access to credit and extension services for farmers.

Lawmakers from different parties acknowledged the strength of India's rice sector and Telangana's contribution to meeting global demand. They said the state's success reflects not only agricultural productivity but also effective governance and collaborative efforts with stakeholders across the value chain.

Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy's remarks come at a time when global food markets are increasingly competitive, and self-sufficiency in staple crops remains a priority for domestic economies. Telangana's performance in the rice segment, he said, positions it as a key contributor to food sustainability and export growth. The Assembly session continued with further discussions on agricultural policy and rural development priorities.

Over 10,000 Health Posts Filled; 7,000 More in Final Stage, Says Health Minister

Hyderabad, March 23, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Telangana has achieved a major milestone in strengthening its healthcare workforce, with over 10,000 health posts successfully filled and another 7,000 recruitments in the final stages, Health Minister T. Harish Rao announced on Monday. The state government's focused recruitment drive is aimed at enhancing medical services, especially in rural and underserved areas where doctor and paramedical staff shortages have long been a concern.

Addressing reporters, the Health Minister said the government has accelerated efforts to recruit doctors, nurses, technicians and support staff across various departments. He highlighted that these appointments are part of a comprehensive plan to improve healthcare delivery and expand access to quality medical care throughout Telangana. The large number of filled positions reflects the administration's commitment to strengthening the state's health infrastructure.

Harish Rao noted that the recruitment process for the additional 7,000 posts is nearing completion, with candidates now undergoing final evaluations and documentation. Once these appointments are finalised, the total number of health personnel on the ground will significantly increase, further reducing gaps in service delivery, particularly at primary health centres, community health centres and district hospitals.



The minister emphasised that filling these positions will not only help in better patient care but also support preventive health programmes, effective implementation of public health initiatives and quicker response during medical emergencies. Strengthening the health workforce is seen as a key step toward ensuring robust public health systems capable of meeting growing demands.

Officials said the hiring drive has also prioritised merit and transparency, with eligible candidates selected based on clear criteria and government guidelines. Through these efforts, the state aims to ensure that every citizen has access to competent medical professionals close to their communities.

The Health Minister reaffirmed the government's commitment to healthcare development, promising continued initiatives to bridge gaps in medical services and support long term improvements in health outcomes across Telangana.

BRS Lawmakers Protest Fee Reimbursement Delays



Hyderabad, March 23 | TPN Bureau

Members of the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council from the BRS staged a protest demanding the immediate release of pending fee reimbursement funds for students. Lawmakers expressed their dissent using placards, highlighting the financial hardships faced by students due to delayed reimbursements.

Opposition leader in the Legislative Council, Madhusudana Chari, criticized the Revanth Reddy government, saying it is playing with the lives of students just as it interferes in the lives of all sections of society. He stated that many students are unable to continue their education because the fee reimbursement amounts have not been released on time.

Chari called for the imme-

mediate disbursement of pending reimbursements totaling ₹12,000 crore. He further alleged that the government lacks commitment toward SC, ST, and BC students, undermining initiatives previously introduced by Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy and continued under K. Chandrashekar Rao, which prioritized timely fee reimbursements.

He warned that while earlier administrations ensured smooth support for students, the current government is creating obstacles for underprivileged students, threatening their ability to pursue education.

The protest concluded with a demand that all pending fee reimbursement funds be released immediately to safeguard the academic futures of marginalized students.

Residents Voice Civic Issues at Prajavani



Quthbullapur, March 23 | TPN Bureau

Residents from various colonies in Quthbullapur raised multiple civic issues during the Prajavani grievance redressal programme held at the CMC, Kompally Circle-56 office on Monday. Deputy Commissioner N. Krishna Reddy received petitions from citizens and assured prompt action on the concerns raised.

A total of six petitions were submitted during the programme, reflecting a range of local problems affecting daily life in several residential areas. Among the key issues highlighted was the demand for construction of an internal link road between Suraram Colony and Saibaba Nagar. Residents also complained about heaps of stones and mud debris obstructing roads, making commuting difficult.

Civic infrastructure concerns featured prominently, with people from Mahalakshmi Layout in Dupally reporting persistent drainage problems and inadequate street lighting. They urged authorities to take immediate steps to address sanitation and safety issues in their localities.

In another complaint, residents from Jayabheri Colony in Kompally raised concerns over alleged unauthorized constructions at Siddhi Vinayaka

Residency. They requested officials to initiate action against violations and ensure adherence to building regulations.

Property-related grievances were also brought to the notice of authorities. These included a request for revision of property tax, a mutation issue concerning a 60-square-yard plot in Survey No. 127 of Suraram Colony, and a dispute related to a house number in Devender Colony.

Responding to the petitions, the Deputy Commissioner directed concerned departments to examine each issue carefully and ensure swift resolution. He emphasised that public grievances should be treated as a priority and resolved within a stipulated timeframe.

Officials present at the programme assured citizens that necessary steps would be taken to address their concerns efficiently. Representatives from various departments participated in the Prajavani, facilitating direct interaction between residents and the administration.

The programme once again highlighted the ongoing civic challenges faced by colonies in the area, with residents expressing hope that their long-pending issues would finally be resolved through official intervention.

Water Conservation Awareness at Suraram School



Quthbullapur, March 23 | TPN Bureau

World Water Day was observed at the Zilla Parishad High School in Suraram Colony with a series of awareness activities aimed at promoting water conservation among students. Essay writing and drawing competitions were organised as part of the event, encouraging students to creatively express the importance of saving water. Prizes were awarded to students who excelled in the competitions.

School headmistress Punyavathi also addressed the gathering and encouraged students to adopt practical habits. She suggested that after meals, students could use leftover water to water plants before washing their hands, thereby contributing to both water conservation and environmental protection.

Teachers including Mallikarjun, Nagaraju, Mahesh Babu, and Jhansi Madam participated in the programme and supported the initiative. The event concluded with a strong message that conserving water today is essential to securing a sustainable future, reinforcing the theme that "no water means no future."

ter recharge.

Emphasising the value of water, he noted that nearly 250 litres of water are required to produce one kilogram of rice. He urged students to understand the importance of water and adopt simple conservation practices in their daily lives. Small measures, such as using smaller glasses during events and reusing water from washing clothes, can make a significant difference, he added.

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Illegal Constructions Raise Questions in Dundigal

Quthbullapur, March 23 | TPN Bureau

Allegations of large-scale illegal constructions have surfaced from the Dundigal circle on the outskirts of the city, sparking concerns over possible administrative inaction and double standards in enforcement. The focus has turned to Survey No. 168 in Gandimaisamma, where several multi-storey buildings are reportedly being constructed without any official permissions.

Residents claim that the constructions are proceeding at full speed despite having "zero approvals," raising serious questions about the role of town planning authorities. Typically, even small residential constructions require multiple clearances, including approved plans and permissions from the town planning department. However, in this case, structures up to G+4 levels are allegedly being developed without adhering to any such regulations.

What has further intensified the issue is the apparent silence of officials. Locals allege that despite the scale and visibility of these constructions, no action has been taken so far. This has led to growing suspicion among residents,



who are questioning whether authorities are unaware of the violations or deliberately ignoring them.

The issue has reportedly been highlighted in sections of the media as well, yet there appears to be no visible response from the concerned departments. Residents argue that if a common citizen at-

tempts even a minor construction, such as a G+2 building or a penthouse, officials promptly intervene, question permissions, and in some cases halt the work with notices.

In contrast, the ongoing large-scale constructions in Gandimaisamma have not faced similar scrutiny, leading to allegations of selective enforcement. "There

seems to be one rule for the poor and another for the influential," a local resident remarked, reflecting a sentiment widely shared in the area.

Suspensions are also being raised about possible backing for these constructions. Locals question whether influential individuals are shielding the projects or if there is tacit support from officials themselves. Such concerns, if left unaddressed, could set a precedent encouraging further violations in the future.

According to information available, at least three to four major constructions are currently underway at the site. With work progressing rapidly, residents warn that any further delay in intervention could make the situation difficult to control.

People in the area are now urging the town planning authorities to act immediately by halting the illegal constructions and initiating strict action against those responsible. They emphasize that rules must be applied uniformly to maintain public trust in governance.

Whether the authorities will respond decisively or continue their silence remains to be seen.

Preventive Arrests Ahead of Assembly Siege Call

Quthbullapur, March 23 | TPN Bureau

Tension prevailed in parts of Quthbullapur on Monday as police carried out a series of preventive arrests following a call by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) for an Assembly siege. The protest was announced to highlight alleged failures in the implementation of the ruling Congress government's "six guarantees," which the BJP claims have not been fulfilled.

As part of the crackdown, Dundigal Municipal BJP president Pesari Krishna Reddy was taken into custody early in the morning. According to local reports, police intercepted him around 6 a.m. as he stepped out of his residence and detained him to prevent participation in the proposed agitation. Authorities in Dundigal remained on high alert throughout the day, anticipating possible mobilization of party workers.

Speaking after his detention, Krishna Reddy strongly criticised the state government, accusing it of misleading the public with unfulfilled promises. He alleged that the Congress administration was fol-



lowing a pattern similar to the previous government led by K. Chandrashekar Rao, claiming that dissent was being suppressed through arrests and restrictions on opposition activities.

Reddy questioned the government's claims of supporting farmers, particularly in the context of recent "Rythu celebrations." He

said the reality on the ground painted a different picture, with many farmers yet to receive the benefits promised under key welfare schemes.

Highlighting specific concerns, he pointed to the situation at the Bowrampet Primary Agricultural Cooperative Society (PACS) bank under the Dundigal circle. Out of

approximately 650 farmers who had availed loans, only about 15 had reportedly benefited from the loan waiver scheme, leaving the remaining 635 farmers in distress. He termed this as a serious lapse in policy implementation and demanded immediate corrective action.

In addition to loan waivers, Reddy alleged that farmers were also not receiving assistance under the Rythu Bandhu scheme, compounding their financial difficulties. He expressed concern that farmers in developing municipal areas, who rely on agriculture for their livelihood, were being neglected.

Warning the government against continuing such arrests, he said public anger was likely to grow if opposition voices were curbed. He asserted that people would ultimately hold the ruling party accountable if their grievances remained unaddressed.

Meanwhile, police officials maintained that the arrests were purely preventive in nature, aimed at maintaining law and order in view of the planned protest.

CITU Holds Rally to Mark Bhagat Singh Martyrdom Day



Quthbullapur, March 23 | TPN Bureau

A rally was organised in Quthbullapur on Sunday to mark the 95th martyrdom day of Bhagat Singh, with members of the Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) calling for resistance against communalism, imperialism, and war.

The rally, led by the CITU Quthbullapur mandal committee, commenced from Shapur Nagar Rythu Bazaar and concluded at Sagar Hotel Chowrasta. Participants raised slogans highlighting unity, social justice, and the need to safeguard democratic values.

Addressing the gathering, CITU leaders said March 23 holds great significance in India's history, as it marks the sacrifice of Bhagat Singh along with Rajguru and Sukhdev Thapar, who laid down their lives for the nation. They described the trio as true revolutionaries who fought for equality and a society free from exploitation.

The speakers emphasised that Bhagat Singh strongly opposed forces that divide society in the name of

religion. They noted that his vision of true independence extended beyond political freedom to include social and economic justice, where all individuals enjoy equal rights.

CITU representatives stated that the best tribute to such revolutionary ideals would be to continue the struggle against injustice faced by workers and farmers in the present day. They highlighted the challenges confronting labourers and agricultural communities, urging collective action to address these issues.

The rally witnessed participation from several union members and local leaders. Among those present were CITU mandal convener Keelukani Lakshman, district leader Pasula Anjaiah, and other members including Devadanam, Gopi, Thimmapa, Anjaneyulu, Durga Naik, Mallareddy, and Sadhulu.

The event concluded with a call to uphold the ideals of Bhagat Singh and to strengthen movements that promote equality, secularism, and workers' rights.

Streetlights Repaired Under 99-Day Drive



Quthbullapur, March 23 | TPN Bureau

As part of the state government's ambitious 99-day action plan, officials carried out a comprehensive survey and repair of streetlights in Mahadevapuram under the Gajularamaram Circle on Sunday. The initiative, taken up on the 18th day of the programme, aimed at improving public safety and civic infrastructure in the area.

During the drive, officials inspected streetlights across main roads, colonies, and internal streets to assess their working condition. Non-functional lights were identified and immediately taken up for repairs to ensure proper illumination.

Authorities replaced faulty bulbs, repaired wiring, and installed necessary electrical components wherever required. The objective was to restore full functionality of streetlights and eliminate dark spots in residential and public areas.

The programme was supervised by the Deputy Commissioner, along with the Deputy Executive Engineer (Electrical)

and maintenance staff, who actively monitored the progress of the works. Officials also interacted with local residents to understand their concerns regarding street lighting and other civic issues.

Based on feedback received from the public, officials directed concerned departments to take swift action to resolve pending issues and ensure that all streetlights remain operational.

Officials stated that the initiative would significantly enhance safety and convenience for residents during night hours. Improved lighting is expected to reduce accidents and provide a sense of security in the area.

The 99-day programme is being implemented with a focus on strengthening basic infrastructure and delivering better civic amenities to the public. Authorities reiterated their commitment to continuing such initiatives to address local issues efficiently and improve overall living conditions.

Ponnam Prabhakar Applauds Children's Performances at Nartanam – Kalala Nivas 3rd Anniversary

Hyderabad, March 23, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Hyderabad celebrated the 3rd anniversary of Nartanam – Kalala Nivas, a premier institution promoting traditional arts, with vibrant dance, music, and cultural programs. Minister Ponnam Prabhakar graced the occasion and was deeply impressed by the children's performances, praising their talent, dedication, and discipline. The event highlighted how institutions like Nartanam nurture the next generation of artists while preserving India's rich cultural heritage.

Addressing the gathering, Minister Prabhakar emphasized that Nartanam – Kalala Nivas serves as a temple for arts, where traditional forms such as classical dance, music, and literature are celebrated and passed on to young learners. He stressed the importance of Indian culture, stating that arts are the foundation that keeps cultural traditions alive and ensures that future generations appreciate and continue these practices.

Minister Prabhakar also highlighted the role of such institutions in inspiring children and youth to explore creative pursuits. By providing guidance, training, and en-



couragement, Nartanam has successfully cultivated talent and built confidence among its students. He noted that the combined efforts of the students, their teachers, and the support of their parents have contributed significantly to the organi-

zation's accomplishments over the past three years.

Reflecting on the organization's journey, he expressed pride in the milestones achieved and encouraged the institution to aim for greater heights in the coming years. Min-

ister Prabhakar assured that the Telangana state government remains committed to supporting arts and culture initiatives, including training programs, cultural festivals, and youth engagement in traditional arts.

He also remarked on the importance of exposing children to cultural activities from a young age, as it builds discipline, creativity, and a deeper understanding of India's heritage. He lauded Nartanam for creating a platform where young performers can showcase their skills, gain recognition, and inspire others to pursue cultural learning.

Concluding his remarks, Minister Ponnam Prabhakar extended his heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to all participants, praising their dedication, hard work, and enthusiasm. He encouraged them to continue pursuing excellence in the arts while keeping India's cultural legacy vibrant and alive for future generations.

The anniversary celebrations were attended by students, teachers, parents, and cultural enthusiasts, making the event a grand success and a memorable tribute to traditional arts.

Funds Sanctioned for Cremation Ground Development in Nacharam



Nacharam, March 23 | TPN Bureau

Local Congress leaders expressed joy as the state government sanctioned over ₹1 crore for the development of the SC crematorium in Nacharam. Speaking at the event, Congress leader Nutalankanti Raju highlighted that the issue had been a long-standing demand of the community, and he praised the government for approving the funds within just 20 days of the formal request.

Raju recalled that during the past ten years, the previous BRS government had largely ignored their appeals regarding the crematorium ground, despite repeated efforts to bring the matter to the attention of the local corporator. He said those efforts had yielded no results, leaving the community frustrated.

He extended special thanks to Uppal constituency Assembly in-charge Parameshwar Reddy for

ensuring the sanction of funds, noting that the approval would now enable proper development of the crematorium ground in Ambedkar Nagar. The leader also mentioned that the community and local residents are grateful for the support and attention given to this long-pending issue.

The programme was attended by several local Congress leaders and party workers, who emphasized the importance of developing basic civic amenities for marginalized communities. The funds are expected to be used for comprehensive improvements to the crematorium ground, ensuring better facilities for the residents of Nacharam.

Leaders stressed that timely government action on community welfare projects like this strengthens public trust and provides a model for addressing local needs effectively.

Community Support Keeps Sattiadi Jatara Alive in Warangal District

Warangal, March 23, 2026 | TPN Bureau

The Sri Sattiadi Jatara, a week long religious festival dedicated to Goddess Lakshmi Devi, is drawing strong community participation and generous donations as it continues in the Medapalli Rampur twin villages of Nallabally mandal in Warangal district. The event has become a vibrant celebration of faith and local tradition, sustained significantly by contributions from devotees and community leaders.

The jatara's organising committee acknowledged that community support has played a crucial role in keeping the festival's arrangements running smoothly. Many residents and devotees have come forward with donations that are helping cover essential festival needs. Village elders highlighted that the event fosters a sense of unity and cultural pride among locals, with traditional observances taking centre stage throughout the festivities.

One notable contribution came from BJP ST Morcha leader Banothu Ramesh Naik, who donated 10,016 to the festival. His support was used to distribute 150 traditional pagdis (headgear) to members of the Banjara community, helping preserve customary practices and encouraging participa-



tion by younger generations. Locals said this act underscored how the jatara not only serves religious purposes but also promotes cultural heritage.

Beyond festival logistics, Ramesh Naik also took up issues related to the temple's land rights. During his visit, he submitted a petition to a member of the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes, seeking intervention to resolve long pend-

ing disputes over the temple land. Devotees said this move is expected to support formal recognition and future development of the shrine, offering stronger protection to the sacred site.

In addition to donations and cultural observances, village leaders and thanda representatives held discussions on safeguarding temple lands and ensuring that traditional practices continue without hin-

drance. The festival committee has also appealed for improved infrastructure support to accommodate the increasing number of devotees attending the jatara.

The ongoing Sattiadi Jatara reflects the deep faith and collective spirit of the community, where religious devotion and cultural preservation come together through active participation and shared responsibility.

Telangana High Court Seeks Government Action on Handloom Order



Hyderabad, March 23, 2026 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana High Court has directed the state government to take appropriate action on a recent government order pertaining to handloom welfare, reinforcing the need for effective implementation of policies designed to support the sector. The bench observed that handloom weavers, who form the backbone of the traditional textile ecosystem, should not be left uncertain or disadvantaged due to delays in policy execution.

The order was issued during a hearing on a petition filed by several stakeholders from the handloom community, who raised concerns over procedural lapses and delays in the implementation of benefits announced for weavers. Petitioners argued that despite assurances by the state, crucial welfare measures have not reached handloom workers in a timely manner, resulting in financial hardship and loss of confidence in government schemes.

During the proceedings, the High Court emphasised that the handloom sector plays a vital role in preserving cultural heritage and sustaining rural livelihoods. The court underscored the need for swift action and clear directives from the government to ensure that announced benefits, subsidies, and welfare support mechanisms are rolled out without further delay.

Responding to the court's observations, government counsel assured that authorities are committed to addressing the issues raised and that necessary steps will be taken to facilitate the effective implementation of the order. The state has been urged to revisit the existing mechanisms

and expedite the distribution of benefits to eligible handloom workers and weavers.

The handloom sector in Telangana has long struggled with challenges such as market competition, lack of modernisation, and inconsistent policy enforcement. Weavers often depend on government support for raw materials, financial incentives, and marketing assistance to sustain their craft and livelihood. The petitioners highlighted that delays in executing approved orders have impeded access to such benefits, pushing many weaver families into debt and poverty.

The High Court's directive is expected to accelerate the government's response and bring renewed focus to the handloom community's demands. Legal experts noted that the judiciary's intervention reflects the importance of upholding welfare commitments and ensuring that vulnerable groups receive timely support.

In recent months, the government has announced various handloom welfare programmes, including financial aid, skill development initiatives, and marketing support. However, implementation gaps had prompted weaver organisations to approach the High Court for redressal. Following the court's instructions, authorities are reviewing the order's provisions and have been asked to submit a compliance report within a specified timeframe. The development has been welcomed by handloom associations, who see it as a positive step toward protecting the interests of weavers and strengthening the sector's growth prospects.

Eerlapalli Shankar Takes OBC Cell Chair at Gandhi Bhavan



Hyderabad, March 23 | TPN Bureau

Shadnagar MLA Eerlapalli Shankar was sworn in as the Chairman of the TPCC OBC Cell at a ceremony held at Gandhi Bhavan on Monday. The event was attended by TPCC Chief Mahesh Kumar Goud, Ministers Ponnam Prabhakar and Vakiti Srihari, government whips Aadi Srinivas and Birla Ilyas, MLA Naveen Yadav, MLC Basavaraju Sarayya, senior leaders V.H., Madhuyashki Goud, and several corporation chairpersons including Nuti Srikanth, Eravarti Anil, and Mettu Sai Kumar.

Minister Ponnam Prabhakar congratulated Eerlapalli Shankar on assuming the role and also appreciated conveners Dhanalakshmi and Venkatesh for their efforts. He emphasized that under Shankar's leadership, and guided by TPCC President Mahesh Kumar Goud, the party must move forward to ensure justice for weaker sections from both the party and government.

Shankar highlighted the need to unify marginalized communities across Telangana's 33 districts and stressed that the party must continue to fight for the imple-

mentation of 42% reservation for BCs, a bill passed under the leadership of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and sent to the President via the Governor. He added that continued advocacy at the national level, including in Delhi, is essential to secure rights for OBCs, and that party representatives must coordinate with TPCC leadership to ensure progress.

He cautioned that parties like BRS and BJP oppose OBC interests, making it the responsibility of the Congress party to champion social justice. He urged focused efforts to educate and empower children from marginalized communities, noting that families with higher education levels have historically achieved better social outcomes.

Shankar called for a dedicated campaign within the party to strengthen unity among weaker sections while fighting for their rights, emphasizing that all efforts should be transparent and effective. He said, "We must ensure that marginalized children receive quality education and opportunities, and the party must actively work toward uniting and uplifting these communities across Telangana."

QNet Case: 32 Arrested Across States in Multi-Crore Scam



Hyderabad, March 23, 2026 | TPN Bureau

In a major crackdown on the QNet scam, which has defrauded investors of crores of rupees across India, 32 accused have been arrested by the Cyber Crime Cell (CCS) of Hyderabad Police. Operations were conducted simultaneously across three states, Hyderabad Police Commissioner Sajjanar confirmed.

During the raids, officials seized a large number of agreements, laptops, and other assets from the accused. The CCS teams split into 30 groups to carry out coordinated operations, ensuring swift action against the network of perpetrators.

Interestingly, a significant number of those arrested are IT professionals, highlighting the scam's penetration into the corporate sector. So far, investigations in four registered cases indicate that 11 victims have suffered losses amounting to nearly ₹75 lakh, Sajjanar said. Searches and operations are continu-

ing to apprehend the remaining accused involved in the scheme.

The Commissioner also cautioned the public to remain vigilant about multi-level marketing (MLM) schemes. He stressed that joining, recruiting, or promoting such schemes is illegal and can attract criminal charges. Anyone who believes they may have been victimized is urged to immediately contact the police and report the matter.

This operation is part of a larger effort by the Hyderabad Police to crack down on financial frauds, protect investors, and ensure that perpetrators face strict legal action. Authorities reiterated that citizens should verify the authenticity of investment schemes before participation and avoid schemes promising unrealistic returns.

The QNet arrests serve as a stern reminder that the police are actively monitoring fraudulent MLM operations and taking decisive action to safeguard public interest.

A Shield for the Everyman: Why Telangana's New Policy Matters

Indiramma Kutumba Jeevitha Bheema By Telangana Govt Rs . 5 Lakhs Insurance to 1.5 Crore Families

In a time when politics is often reduced to slogans, the Telangana Budget 2026-27 has delivered something far more meaningful - a real promise of protection for every family. The announcement of the Indiramma Family Life Insurance Scheme, also known as Indiramma Kutumba Jeevitha Bheema, is not just another welfare scheme. It is a bold political statement. It tells the people of Telangana that their government understands a painful truth: in today's world, one sudden death in a family can turn life upside down.

Deputy Chief Minister and Finance Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka has done more than present a budget. He has drawn a clear line between old-style limited welfare and a new model of universal social security. Under this scheme, every eligible family in Telangana will receive 5 lakh life insurance coverage. Nearly 1.15 crore families are expected to benefit. The scheme will be launched on June 2, 2026, on Telangana State Formation Day. Most importantly, the government has not stopped with words alone. It has put its money where its mouth is. A strong allocation of 4,000 crore has already been made. That number matters. In Indian politics, announcements are easy. Headlines come cheap. But budget allocation is what separates a promise from a policy. Telangana has not merely spoken about compassion; it has given shape to responsibility. In doing so, it has sent a message many governments still fail to understand - security is not a luxury only for the poor. It is a basic need for every family. This is what makes Indiramma Bheema politically and morally significant. It is universal. That one word changes everything. For years, welfare in India has often been trapped in narrow categories - below poverty line, ration card labels, selective beneficiaries, endless paperwork, and social divisions. Telangana's new insurance policy breaks that mould. It says a poor family deserves protection. A middle-class family deserves protection. Even a financially stable family deserves protection. Because tragedy does not ask for an income certificate

before knocking on a door. This is where the Congress government in Telangana is trying to redefine the very meaning of welfare. This is not charity politics. This is rights-based governance. This is the language of "Nyay" - justice - moving from speeches into real policy. The message is loud and clear: the state is not just there to distribute benefits before elections. It is there to stand by its people when life takes an unexpected turn. That is exactly why this scheme matters far beyond Telangana. Around the world, the strongest societies are not built only with roads, flyovers, and industrial parks. They are built with safety nets. In countries like the United Kingdom and Canada, governments understand that families should not be left alone to face life's worst moments. In Asia too, nations that built strong public protection systems earned not just social stability, but public trust. Telangana is now stepping into that space with confidence and clarity. Naturally, critics will raise questions about the cost. They always do. 4,000 crore is a big amount, and opposition voices will ask whether the state can afford such a scheme. But that argument

misses the wood for the trees. The real question is not whether the government can afford to spend this money. The real question is whether society can afford the consequences of not spending it. When a breadwinner dies, a family does not just lose income. It loses stability, security, educational opportunities, health support, and often its future. Children may be forced out of school. Women may be pushed into debt. Homes may slowly collapse under pressure. If a government cannot step in at such a moment, then what exactly is governance for?

This is not just theory. For many people, welfare is remembered not as a policy, but as a lifeline. I still remember my childhood days when I was studying engineering in Karimnagar. One day after college, my friend met with an accident. We immediately called 108, the emergency ambulance service introduced during the time of Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy. He was rushed to the hospital in time. After a few days, he recovered. Even today, his mother remembers that moment with gratitude and says her son was saved because of that government support. That is how ordi-

nary people remember welfare. When a government stands by people in their darkest hour, the memory stays for years. Help given in a moment of need is never forgotten. That is why Indiramma Bheema stands out as one of the strongest and smartest decisions in this budget. It recognizes a simple truth - economic growth without social protection is incomplete. A family living in fear cannot truly progress. A worker who worries every day about what will happen to his wife and children after him cannot dream freely. A middle-class parent buried under EMIs is often just one tragedy away from financial ruin. Telangana has understood that real development is not only about creating wealth. It is also about protecting people from sudden loss. There is also sharp political wisdom in this move. The Revanth government is clearly trying to build a direct emotional and economic bond with every household in the state. This is not a scheme designed for one caste, one class, or one vote bank. It reaches every home. That gives it rare political strength. If implemented honestly and efficiently, this could become one of the most influential welfare

measures in Telangana's recent history. It can build public trust in a way that speeches and slogans never can. History offers a powerful lesson here. During 2004 to 2009, Dr Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy ruled united Andhra Pradesh, and even today many people say he set a gold standard in welfare governance. A major reason for that lasting goodwill was Rajiv Aarogyasri. That health scheme did not just provide treatment; it gave hope to poor families. Even years after his passing, people across political lines still remember YSR for standing firmly with the poor. That is the power of a well-implemented welfare policy. It outlives elections. It outlives political arguments. It lives in people's hearts. If the Telangana government implements Indiramma Kutumba Jeevitha Bheema in the same spirit and with the same seriousness, this could well become a new benchmark in welfare politics - in many ways, a next-generation social protection model. If done right, Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka will not just earn praise in Telangana, but recognition across the country. In recent public discussions too, many

have described Revanth Reddy as one of the most dynamic and emerging leaders in India. A scheme like this, if delivered effectively, can strengthen that image even further. But the government must remember one important thing: a bold announcement creates hope, and hope creates expectation. If there are delays, confusion, weak implementation, or bureaucratic hurdles, political applause can quickly turn into public disappointment. A universal promise must be matched by universal access. The promise is big, so the delivery must be even bigger. If Telangana truly wants this scheme to become a national model, then it must be simple, fast, transparent, and free from red tape. Still, the larger truth remains undeniable. In a political culture where many leaders speak loudly about the poor but often ignore the insecurity of ordinary families, Telangana has made a move that feels both modern and deeply humane. Indiramma Bheema is not just an insurance policy. It is a declaration that the state has a duty to protect dignity. It is a recognition that the death of one earning member should not become the death of an entire family's future.

This is what good politics looks like. This is what serious welfare looks like. And this is what leadership looks like when it chooses courage over convenience. Telangana has not merely announced a scheme. It has thrown down the gauntlet to the rest of India. In 2026, while many governments are still busy making promises, Telangana has offered something stronger - a real shield for every home.



Sagar Vanaparthy,
Policy Analyst,
9100004402.

India's Energy Wake-Up Call Amid the Israel-Iran War

The ongoing Israel-Iran conflict is not just another geopolitical flashpoint—it represents a profound turning point in how nations like India must think about energy security. As global oil routes face disruption and prices surge, the crisis underscores a hard truth: energy security today is no longer just about securing supply, but about navigating a complex web of geopolitics, logistics, and economic vulnerability.

At the heart of the crisis lies the Strait of Hormuz, one of the world's most critical energy chokepoints. A significant portion of global oil and gas supplies pass through this narrow stretch of water. Any instability here sends immediate shockwaves across international markets. The current conflict has heightened fears of supply disruptions, pushing oil prices sharply upward and reviving memories of past global oil shocks.

For India, the implications are immediate and serious. The country relies heavily on imports to meet its energy demands, with a substantial share coming from the Middle East. Any disruption in this region directly impacts fuel availability, pricing, and overall economic stability. Rising oil prices can trigger inflation, increase transportation costs, and strain household budgets.

The crisis also reveals how energy infrastructure itself has become a strategic target. Oil fields, pipelines, and shipping routes are no longer just economic assets—they are tools and targets in modern warfare. This shift demands a broader and more sophisticated understanding of energy security, one that includes infrastructure protection, maritime safety, and geopolitical risk assessment.

India has taken steps in recent years to cushion such shocks. The country has diversified its crude oil imports, sourcing from a wider range of suppliers, and has built strategic petroleum reserves to handle short-term disruptions. These measures provide some resilience,



but they are not enough to fully shield the economy from prolonged global volatility.

The broader economic impact remains a major concern. Sustained high oil prices can weaken the currency, widen the trade deficit, and complicate fiscal management. Energy-intensive sectors such as transportation, manufacturing, and agriculture are particularly vulnerable, as rising input costs can slow growth

and reduce competitiveness.

Another key issue is the vulnerability of global supply chains. Energy is deeply embedded in nearly every aspect of economic activity. Disruptions in fuel supply can ripple through industries, affecting production, logistics, and even food security. This interconnectedness means that energy crises are no longer isolated events—they quickly evolve into wider economic

challenges.

Maritime security has also come into sharper focus. The conflict highlights how quickly vital shipping routes can become contested zones. For a country like India, which depends heavily on sea-borne trade, ensuring the safety of these routes is crucial. Strengthening naval capabilities and enhancing international cooperation in securing sea lanes will be important steps going

forward.

The situation also complicates India's foreign policy calculus. Maintaining balanced relationships with key global players becomes more challenging during periods of conflict. Energy security is now closely tied to diplomacy, requiring careful navigation of competing interests to safeguard national priorities.

Looking ahead, the crisis offers important lessons. One of the most

significant is the need for deeper diversification—not just in terms of suppliers, but also in energy sources. Expanding renewable energy capacity, investing in clean technologies, and accelerating the shift toward electric mobility can reduce dependence on volatile fossil fuel markets.

India must also continue to strengthen its strategic reserves and explore new partnerships in different regions. Building resilient infrastructure and enhancing domestic energy production will be critical in reducing external vulnerabilities.

Equally important is the financial dimension of energy security. Volatile energy markets can lead to fluctuations in currency and capital flows, affecting overall economic stability. Coordinated policy responses across sectors will be necessary to manage these risks effectively.

Ultimately, the Israel-Iran conflict serves as a powerful reminder that energy security in today's world is multifaceted. It is shaped not only by supply and demand but also by geopolitical tensions, technological change, and economic interdependence.

For India, the path forward lies in embracing this complexity. The country must move beyond a narrow focus on securing oil supplies and adopt a comprehensive approach that integrates energy policy with national security, economic planning, and foreign relations.

Though the conflict is unfolding far from India's borders, its consequences are being felt at home. In an interconnected global economy, distant crises can quickly translate into domestic challenges. The real test for India is not just how it responds to the current situation, but how well it prepares for future disruptions.

In that sense, this crisis is more than a moment of uncertainty—it is an opportunity. An opportunity for India to rethink, recalibrate, and strengthen its energy security strategy for a rapidly changing world.

Narendra Modi Compares Iran War Impact to Covid, Urges Unity



Prime Minister Narendra Modi has drawn parallels between the ongoing Middle East conflict and the COVID-19 pandemic, warning that the situation could pose prolonged challenges for India and the global economy. Speaking in the Lok Sabha, he outlined the potential impact of the war and stressed the need for preparedness, unity, and vigilance.

Modi highlighted that crises of this scale often trigger opportunistic behaviour such as hoarding and black marketing, recalling similar trends witnessed during the COVID-19 pandemic. He urged both the central and state governments to remain alert and take strict action against such activities to ensure that essential commodities re-

main accessible to the public.

The Prime Minister emphasized that the ongoing conflict in West Asia is "worrisome" and presents unprecedented challenges for India, particularly because the region is crucial for the country's energy imports and trade routes. Disruptions in key supply chains, especially through the strategically important Strait of Hormuz, have raised concerns over oil, gas, and other essential imports.

Modi also reassured citizens that the government is actively monitoring the situation and has taken steps to ensure adequate availability of fuel, fertilizers, and other essential resources. High-level meetings have been held to review preparedness and to safeguard the country from

potential shortages or economic shocks.

Another major concern highlighted by the Prime Minister was the large number of Indians living and working in the Middle East. He noted that the government is closely tracking their safety and is ready to take necessary measures if the situation deteriorates further.

Drawing a second comparison with the pandemic, Modi stressed the importance of public awareness and collective responsibility. He urged citizens not to panic, avoid misinformation, and cooperate with authorities, much like during the COVID-19 crisis. He said that India's experience in handling the pandemic has strengthened its ability to deal with large-

scale disruptions.

The Prime Minister's remarks come at a time when global markets are witnessing volatility due to rising oil prices and geopolitical uncertainty. Analysts believe that prolonged instability in the region could have significant economic consequences worldwide, including inflationary pressures and disruptions in trade.

Overall, Modi's address underscored the seriousness of the situation while also projecting confidence in India's preparedness. By invoking the lessons of the COVID-19 pandemic, he highlighted the importance of unity, discipline, and proactive governance in navigating the challenges posed by the ongoing conflict.

'Purple Sabha' Report Flags Gaps in Parliament's Disability Focus

A first-of-its-kind report titled Purple Sabha: State of Disability in Parliament 2025 has revealed significant gaps in how disability-related issues are addressed in India's Parliament, highlighting limited and uneven engagement by lawmakers.

The report found that Members of Parliament raised a total of 170 questions related to disability across the Budget, Monsoon, and Winter sessions in 2025. While 208 MPs participated in raising these questions, a striking 76% of them asked only a single question on the subject, indicating that engagement was widespread but largely superficial.

Prepared by the Politics and Disability Forum in collaboration with the National Law Institute University, the report is the first systematic attempt to analyse parliamentary attention to disability rights. It concludes that a small group of MPs is driving most of the meaningful engagement, while broader participation remains limited.

Another key finding is the narrow framing of disability issues,



Around 60% of the questions were directed to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, suggesting that disability is still largely viewed through a welfare lens rather than as a rights-based issue.

The report also highlights significant blind spots. At least 12 ministries with responsibilities under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016—including key sectors like agriculture, housing, rural development, and

tribal affairs—did not receive a single disability-related question throughout the year.

Thematic gaps were equally concerning. Critical issues such as independent living, women with disabilities, disaster preparedness, electoral accessibility, and private-sector compliance were completely absent from parliamentary discussions.

Geographical disparities were also evident. Nine states, including several in the Northeast, did

not raise any disability-related questions, pointing to uneven representation of concerns across regions.

India has over 2.68 crore persons with disabilities, making the lack of comprehensive parliamentary engagement a matter of concern. The report stresses that disability issues intersect with multiple sectors and should not be confined to social welfare alone.

To address these gaps, the report recommends that MPs expand the scope of their questions to include underrepresented themes and hold a wider range of ministries accountable. It also calls for a stronger rights-based approach to disability in policymaking.

Overall, the findings underline the need for deeper, more consistent, and inclusive parliamentary engagement to ensure that the concerns of persons with disabilities are adequately addressed in India's governance framework.

NDA Finalises Tamil Nadu Seat Deal; Edappadi K. Palaniswami Gets 178 Seats

The National Democratic Alliance (NDA) has finalised its seat-sharing arrangement for the upcoming 2026 Tamil Nadu Assembly elections 2026, with Edappadi K. Palaniswami emerging as the central figure in the alliance's electoral strategy.

Under the agreement, the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam will contest 178 out of the total 234 seats, securing the dominant share within the coalition. The Bharatiya Janata Party has been allotted 27 seats, while allies Pattali Makkal Katchi and Amma Makkal Munnettra Kazhagam will contest 18 and 11 seats respectively.

The seat-sharing pact marks a key milestone for the NDA as it prepares to challenge the ruling Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam-led alliance in what is expected to be a closely fought election. By retaining a large majority of seats, the AIADMK has reinforced its leadership role within the alliance, while ensuring representation for its partners to maintain unity.

For the BJP, the allocation of 27 seats is seen as a strategic opportunity to expand its presence in Tamil Nadu, a state where it



has traditionally struggled to gain a strong foothold. Party leaders believe this partnership will help improve its electoral prospects and visibility in key constituencies.

The inclusion of regional parties like PMK and AMMK reflects the NDA's broader strategy of consolidating support among

specific voter groups and regions. These parties are expected to play a crucial role in constituencies where they have established influence, thereby strengthening the alliance's overall chances.

The agreement also indicates that earlier differences within the alliance have been resolved.

The negotiations, led by Palaniswami in coordination with senior BJP leaders, were closely watched due to reports of disagreements over seat allocation. The final deal suggests a consensus-driven approach aimed at presenting a united front.

Political observers note that the seat distribution appears to follow a "winnability-first" strategy, where parties have been assigned constituencies based on their local strength and past performance. This approach is aimed at maximising the alliance's chances in a state known for its strong regional political dynamics.

With the seat-sharing formula now finalised, the focus will shift to candidate selection and campaign planning. The NDA is expected to intensify its outreach efforts in the coming weeks, targeting key issues such as governance, development, and anti-incumbency sentiment.

Overall, the agreement sets the stage for a high-stakes electoral battle in Tamil Nadu, with the NDA aiming to mount a strong challenge in the 2026 Assembly elections.

Raghav Chadha Seeks Data Rollover, Transfer Rights for Mobile Users



Raghav Chadha has raised a strong demand in the Rajya Sabha for reforms in mobile data usage policies, urging telecom companies to allow rollover of unused data and enable users to transfer it to others. Highlighting the issue as one of consumer rights, he called for greater regulation and fairness in how mobile data is managed in India.

Speaking in Parliament, Chadha criticised the current system where mobile data plans come with daily limits—such as 1.5GB or 2GB—that reset every 24 hours. He pointed out that any unused data automatically expires at midnight, despite users having paid for the full amount. He termed this practice unfair and questioned why consumers should lose what they have already purchased.

Drawing comparisons with everyday utilities like petrol, diesel, and electricity, Chadha argued that consumers in those sectors are allowed to use what they pay for without arbitrary expiration. In contrast, mobile users are forced to either consume their entire daily quota or lose the remaining data, which he described as an "unethical" system.

To address the issue, the Aam Aadmi Party leader proposed three key reforms. First, he demanded a rollover system where unused data is carried forward to the next day instead of being

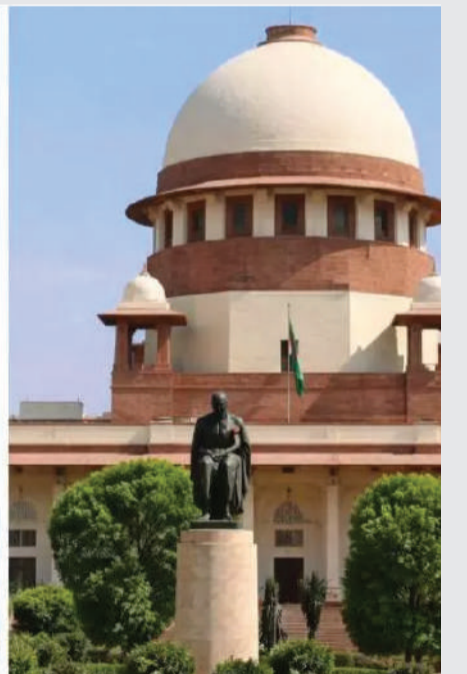
erased. Second, he suggested that telecom companies should offer discounts or adjustments for users who consistently underutilise their data, ensuring they are not overcharged for unused capacity. Third, he proposed that unused data should be treated as a form of "digital property," allowing users to transfer it to friends or family, similar to money transfers.

Chadha also noted that such consumer-friendly policies are already in place in several countries, where data rollover is a standard feature in mobile plans. He argued that India, as a rapidly growing digital economy, should adopt similar practices to ensure fairness and better value for users.

The issue of mobile data expiry affects millions of users across the country, especially those who may not consume their full daily limits. Chadha's proposal aims to make telecom services more flexible and aligned with consumer interests.

His remarks have sparked discussion around telecom regulations and user rights, with many users relating to the concern over wasted data. Whether the government or telecom operators act on these suggestions remains to be seen, but the debate has brought renewed focus on the need for more consumer-friendly digital policies in India.

Supreme Court of India Slams Probe Agencies in Anil Ambani Bank Fraud Case



The Supreme Court of India has strongly criticised central probe agencies over their handling of the bank fraud case linked to Anil Ambani, calling their approach "unacceptable" and lacking urgency. The court's remarks came during a hearing on alleged large-scale financial irregularities involving companies of the Anil Dhirubhai Ambani Group.

A bench led by Justice Surya Kant expressed concern over what it described as a "reluctant" investigation by agencies such as the Central Bureau of Investigation and the Enforcement Directorate. The court noted that despite serious allegations, the pace of the probe had not inspired confidence either in the judiciary or the public.

The judges made it clear that while the court cannot dictate arrests, the lack of visible progress in the investigation raises serious concerns. They stressed that the probe must be conducted in a fair, transparent, and time-bound manner to ensure accountability.

In a significant direction, the court asked both the CBI and ED to work together and "join hands" to uncover the truth behind the alleged fraud. It also instructed the ED to report any instance of non-cooperation by financial institutions or state authorities during the course of the investigation.

The case involves allegations of mas-

sive diversion and siphoning of public funds, with estimates suggesting losses running into thousands of crores. The court observed that such serious allegations demand a more rigorous and coordinated effort from investigative agencies.

During the hearing, the government informed the court that a Special Investigation Team has been constituted by the ED to expedite the probe. Authorities also stated that multiple arrests have already been made and assets worth significant amounts have been attached as part of the investigation.

However, petitioners argued that action so far has largely been limited to lower-level officials, with no major breakthroughs despite regulatory findings pointing to large-scale financial misconduct. This aspect was noted by the court while stressing the need for a more comprehensive probe.

The Supreme Court has now directed agencies to proceed swiftly and ensure that the investigation reaches a logical conclusion. The matter has been posted for further hearing after a few weeks, with the court expecting concrete progress by then.

Overall, the court's strong remarks signal growing judicial concern over delays in high-profile financial investigations and reinforce the need for efficiency, coordination, and transparency in handling such cases.

Iran Denies Talks with Trump Amid Rising Hormuz Tensions

Iran has strongly rejected claims made by Donald Trump that negotiations are underway between the two sides, even as tensions escalate over the strategic Strait of Hormuz and threats targeting energy infrastructure.

The denial comes amid conflicting signals from Washington, where Trump suggested that "productive talks" were taking place to ease hostilities and avoid further escalation. Iranian officials, however, have categorically dismissed these assertions, stating that no direct or indirect discussions have been held with the United States under the current circumstances. This sharp contradiction highlights the fragile and uncertain diplomatic environment surrounding the ongoing conflict.

At the center of the standoff is the Strait of Hormuz, one of the world's most critical oil transit routes, through which a significant portion of global crude supply passes. Iran has either restricted or threatened to close the passage, using it as strategic leverage in the conflict. The move has already disrupted global energy markets and heightened fears of a wider regional crisis.

Tensions escalated further after Trump issued a strong warning, threatening to target Iran's power plants if the strait



was not reopened within a specified timeframe. In response, Iranian authorities warned of severe retaliation, including potential attacks on energy and infrastructure assets across the region. The exchange of threats has significantly raised the risk of a broader conflict involving multiple countries.

Despite the rising tensions, recent developments indicate a temporary pause in potential military escalation. The United States has reportedly delayed any immediate strikes on

Iranian energy infrastructure, citing the possibility of diplomatic engagement. However, Iran's continued denial of talks suggests that any such negotiations remain uncertain or indirect at best.

The situation has also had a visible impact on global markets, particularly in the energy sector. Oil prices have fluctuated sharply, while investors remain cautious amid uncertainty over supply disruptions and geopolitical risks. The prolonged instability has added to concerns about inflation and

global economic growth.

Overall, the standoff between Iran and the United States underscores the complexity of the current geopolitical landscape. With both sides maintaining firm positions and offering conflicting narratives, the path to de-escalation remains unclear. Much will depend on whether diplomatic channels can be effectively established to prevent further deterioration of the situation and ensure stability in one of the world's most vital energy corridors.

Iran War May Trigger Worst Energy Crisis in Decades: IEA



The ongoing conflict involving Iran could push the world into one of the most severe energy crises in decades, according to the International Energy Agency (IEA). The agency's chief has warned that the situation may be even more disruptive than the oil shocks of the 1970s, highlighting the scale of the threat to global energy security and economic stability.

At the heart of the crisis is the Strait of Hormuz, a critical maritime corridor through which a significant share of the world's oil and gas supplies passes. Due to the conflict, shipping through this route has been severely disrupted, leading to a sharp drop in global energy supply. Reports indicate that millions of barrels of oil per day have been taken off the market, creating a major supply shock.

The disruption has already had widespread consequences. Oil prices have surged sharply, contributing

to rising inflation and increasing costs for businesses and consumers worldwide. Several countries, especially those heavily dependent on energy imports, are facing heightened economic pressure. Experts warn that prolonged instability could slow global growth and strain financial systems.

In response to the crisis, the IEA and its member nations have initiated emergency measures, including the release of strategic oil reserves to stabilise markets. However, the agency has cautioned that such steps can only provide temporary relief. The core issue remains the blockage and instability around the Strait of Hormuz, which continues to disrupt normal energy flows.

The situation has been further complicated by rising geopolitical tensions. The United States has issued warnings to Iran, including threats to target critical in-

rastructure if the strait is not reopened. In turn, Iran has warned of retaliation, including potential attacks on regional energy facilities, raising fears of a broader conflict.

Beyond oil, the crisis is also affecting global natural gas supplies, adding another layer of pressure on energy markets. Analysts note that the combined disruption to oil and gas flows makes this crisis particularly severe, with no immediate alternatives to fully offset the supply loss.

Overall, the warning from the IEA underscores the seriousness of the current situation. Unless the Strait of Hormuz is reopened and tensions ease, the world could face prolonged energy shortages, high prices, and significant economic disruption. The coming weeks will be crucial in determining whether diplomatic efforts can stabilise the region or if the crisis deepens further.

Ambulances Torched in London, Hate Crime Suspected

A shocking incident in London has sparked outrage after four ambulances belonging to a Jewish volunteer emergency service were set on fire in what authorities suspect to be a hate crime. The attack took place in the Golders Green area, a neighbourhood known for its significant Jewish population.

The ambulances, operated by the Jewish charity Hatzola, were parked near a synagogue when they were deliberately targeted in the early hours of the morning. Eyewitness accounts and CCTV footage suggest that multiple individuals were involved in setting the vehicles ablaze before fleeing the scene. The fire caused explosions due to cylinders inside the ambulances, damaging nearby buildings and creating panic among



residents.

Emergency services responded quickly, with several fire engines deployed to control the blaze. Fortunately, no injuries were reported, though the destruction of critical emergency vehicles has raised serious concerns about public safety and access to medical services in the area.

Authorities have launched an investigation, treating the incident as a suspected antisemitic hate crime. Counter-terrorism police are leading the probe, given the seriousness of

the attack and its potential wider implications. Officials are examining CCTV footage and pursuing leads to identify those responsible.

The attack has been widely condemned by political and community leaders. UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer described it as a "deeply shocking antisemitic attack" and called for unity against hate. Religious leaders and local representatives also expressed concern, calling the incident an assault not only on a community but on essential emergency services.

The incident comes amid rising concerns over antisemitism in the UK and across Europe. Community organisations have warned of increasing hostility and fear among Jewish residents, especially in the context

of ongoing global tensions. The targeting of ambulances—vehicles meant to provide life-saving services—has been described as particularly disturbing.

Officials have assured that additional security measures and police patrols will be increased in the area to reassure residents. The government has also pledged support to replace the damaged ambulances and ensure that emergency response services continue without disruption.

As investigations continue, authorities are urging the public to come forward with any information that could help identify the suspects. The incident has once again highlighted the urgent need to address hate crimes and protect vulnerable communities from targeted violence.

Oil Drops, Stocks Surge as Trump Delays Iran Strikes



Global financial markets saw a sharp reversal on Monday after Donald Trump announced a five-day postponement of planned military strikes on Iran's energy infrastructure. The move eased immediate fears of escalation in the Middle East and triggered a strong positive reaction across equities while pushing oil prices lower.

Crude oil prices, which had surged earlier amid fears of supply disruptions, fell sharply following the announcement. The global benchmark Brent crude dropped significantly, briefly falling below the \$100 per barrel mark after touching higher levels earlier in the day. Similarly, US benchmark crude prices also declined, reflecting reduced concerns over immediate military action and potential damage to energy facilities.

At the same time, global equity markets rebounded strongly. US stock futures surged, with Dow Jones futures jumping over 700 points, while S&P 500 and Nasdaq futures also recorded gains of more than 1.5%. The rally signaled renewed investor optimism, as the delay in strikes raised hopes of a diplomatic resolution to the ongoing conflict.

Trump said the decision to delay military action came after what he described as "productive conversations" regarding the conflict. The postponement is seen as a temporary window for negotia-

tions, although uncertainty remains over whether talks will lead to a lasting resolution. The development follows weeks of heightened tensions, including threats to target Iran's power plants and disruptions around the strategically important Strait of Hormuz.

Markets had been under intense pressure prior to the announcement, with oil prices rising sharply due to fears of supply disruptions from the region. The Strait of Hormuz, a key global oil transit route, has been at the center of the crisis, and any escalation could significantly impact global energy flows. The latest move, however, provided short-term relief to investors concerned about inflation and economic stability.

Despite the immediate positive reaction, analysts caution that volatility is likely to persist. The situation remains highly fluid, with geopolitical risks still elevated and no clear indication of a long-term resolution. Investors are expected to remain cautious, closely monitoring developments in the region and any further signals from both the US and Iran.

Overall, the temporary pause in military action has offered markets a breather, but the broader outlook continues to depend on the direction of diplomatic efforts and the stability of global energy supplies.

War Day 24: Iran Threatens Hormuz Closure as Strikes Hit Tehran

The ongoing conflict involving Iran entered its 24th day with tensions escalating sharply, as fresh strikes hit Tehran and fears grew over a wider regional confrontation. The situation remains highly volatile, with both sides exchanging threats and intensifying military actions.

At the center of the crisis is the strategically crucial Strait of Hormuz, through which a significant portion of the world's oil supply passes. Former US President Donald Trump had issued a strict 48-hour deadline demanding that Iran reopen the waterway, warning of severe military consequences if it failed to comply. The deadline has further escalated tensions in an already fragile region.

In response, Iran's armed forces issued a strong warning, stating they could shut down the Strait of Hormuz indefinitely if the United States carried out its threats to strike Iranian power plants. This move could severely disrupt global energy supplies and trigger a major economic crisis.

Meanwhile, the conflict has intensified on the ground, with fresh airstrikes reported in Tehran. These attacks come amid ongoing military exchanges between Iran and US-Israeli forces, highlighting the deepening scale of the war. Missile strikes and counter-attacks continue across the region, increasing the risk of further escalation.

Global concern is also



rising over the economic impact of the war. Oil prices have surged sharply due to fears of supply disruptions linked to tensions in the Strait of Hormuz. Energy experts have warned that the world could be heading towards a serious energy crisis if the conflict continues or worsens.

International leaders are closely monitoring the situation. Countries like the United Kingdom have begun assessing the economic fallout, while global institutions warn that prolonged instability could impact growth and financial markets worldwide.

Despite occasional signals of diplomacy, there is little clarity on a resolution. Conflicting statements from both sides regarding possible talks have added to the uncertainty. While some reports suggest back-channel communication, Iran has publicly denied any negotiations.

Overall, the 24th day of the conflict underscores the growing risks of a prolonged war with global consequences. With military actions intensifying and no clear diplomatic breakthrough in sight, the situation remains tense, and the coming days will be critical in determining whether the crisis escalates further or moves toward de-escalation.

Air Canada Plane Hits Vehicle at LaGuardia, Pilots Killed



A major aviation incident occurred at LaGuardia Airport in New York after an Air Canada Express aircraft collided with a ground vehicle while landing, leading to the deaths of both pilots and injuries to several passengers.

The accident involved a Bombardier CRJ-900 jet operating as a scheduled flight from Montreal to New York. The aircraft, carrying 72 passengers and four crew members, struck a fire truck that was on the runway responding to a separate emergency involving another aircraft. The collision occurred during landing, when the plane was already descending and nearing touchdown.

According to early reports, both the aircraft and the fire vehicle had been cleared to use the runway, raising serious concerns about possible communication lapses in air traffic control. Moments before the crash, air traffic controllers were heard urgently in-

structing the vehicle to stop, but the warning came too late to prevent the collision.

The impact caused significant damage to the front section of the aircraft, particularly the cockpit area. Tragically, the pilot and co-pilot lost their lives, while dozens of passengers and crew members sustained injuries of varying degrees. Several injured individuals were taken to hospitals, with a few reported to be in serious condition. Firefighters aboard the emergency vehicle were also among those injured.

Following the incident, airport authorities immediately suspended operations at LaGuardia, leading to widespread disruption. Hundreds of flights were delayed or cancelled, and several incoming flights were diverted to nearby airports. Emergency response teams were quickly deployed to secure the site and assist passengers.

The accident has once again highlighted safety

concerns in the aviation sector, particularly regarding runway management and coordination between ground vehicles and incoming aircraft. Investigators from the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) have launched a detailed probe to determine the exact cause of the collision.

Experts believe the investigation will focus on air traffic control communication, runway clearance procedures, and operational protocols during emergency situations. The role of staffing shortages and system pressures may also come under scrutiny.

This tragic incident underscores the risks associated with complex airport operations and the importance of precise coordination. As authorities continue their investigation, the focus remains on understanding what went wrong and preventing similar accidents in the future.

SEBI Tightens IPO Rules with QR Codes, Simpler Disclosures

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has introduced sweeping changes to the IPO disclosure framework, aiming to make public issue documents more accessible, transparent, and investor-friendly. The reforms come through amendments to the Issue of Capital and Disclosure Requirements (ICDR) Regulations, 2026, marking a significant shift towards simplification and digitisation in the primary market.

A key highlight of the overhaul is the introduction of a draft abridged prospectus, which companies must now submit along with their draft offer documents, including the draft red herring prospectus. This concise document is designed to present critical information in a structured and easy-to-understand format, helping investors quickly grasp the essentials of an IPO at an early stage.

To further enhance accessibility, SEBI has replaced the requirement of attaching a physical abridged prospectus with application forms. Instead, issuers will now provide QR codes and web links, enabling investors to instantly access key documents such as the red herring prospectus, abridged prospectus, and price band details online. This move aligns the IPO process with the growing trend of digital participation in financial markets.



The regulator has also standardised the format of abridged prospectuses by prescribing clear sections and word limits. These summaries will include important details such as business overview, industry insights, financial performance over the past three years, key performance indicators, major risk factors, and promoter shareholding before and after the issue. The aim is to improve readability and prevent overly technical or lengthy disclosures that may deter retail investors.

In addition, SEBI has introduced enhanced transparency requirements. Companies will now need to disclose summaries of contingent liabilities and related-party transactions—areas that are often closely scrutinised by investors. At the same time, redundant provisions have been removed to streamline the disclosure framework and reduce complexity.

Another notable change relates to lock-in rules. In situations where a lock-in cannot be created in the usual manner, depositories will be authorised to mark such securities as “non-transferable” for the specified period, ensuring regulatory compliance even in exceptional cases.

Overall, SEBI's latest reforms are aimed at striking a balance between investor protection and ease of doing business. By leveraging technology and simplifying disclosures, the regulator seeks to make IPO documents more user-friendly while maintaining the depth of information required for informed investment decisions.

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Powerica IPO Gets Mixed Views; Brokerages Advise Caution



The upcoming IPO of Powerica Limited has drawn mixed responses from brokerages, with most recommending a cautious approach despite positive long-term prospects. The 1,100 crore public issue is set to open for subscription from March 24 to March 27, attracting investor attention amid a volatile market environment.

Brokerages remain divided on whether investors should subscribe to the issue. While some have given a positive outlook, citing the company's strong positioning in the power solutions segment, others have flagged concerns over inconsistent financial performance and margin pressures. The overall sentiment suggests that the IPO may be more suitable for long-term investors rather than those seeking quick listing gains.

On the positive side, Powerica operates in a critical sector with steady demand, particularly for diesel generator sets used in backup

power across industries such as data centres, infrastructure, and telecom. The company also benefits from long-standing partnerships with global players and is gradually expanding into renewable energy, which could support future growth.

However, concerns remain over its financial stability. Analysts point out that while the company has recorded revenue growth, its profitability has not kept pace. Margins have shown signs of decline in recent periods, and net profit has seen pressure due to rising costs. This mismatch between revenue and earnings growth has made some investors cautious.

Valuation is another factor influencing investor sentiment. At the upper price band of ₹375-₹395 per share, the IPO is considered reasonably priced compared to peers, but not particularly attractive given the company's uneven earnings track record. As a result, expecta-

tions of strong listing gains remain limited.

Market indicators also reflect muted enthusiasm. The grey market premium (GMP) for the IPO has remained flat, suggesting that the stock may list close to its issue price without significant upside in the short term. This further reinforces the view that the offering is not geared towards quick profits.

Experts suggest that investors with a higher risk appetite and a long-term investment horizon may consider applying, but with limited allocation. For conservative investors, a wait-and-watch approach after listing could be a safer strategy.

Overall, the Powerica IPO presents a balanced but cautious opportunity. While the company's presence in a growing sector offers potential, near-term uncertainties and financial concerns mean investors should evaluate the risks carefully before making a decision.

Airline Stocks Sink as Fuel Price Fears Rise

Shares of Indian aviation companies came under sharp selling pressure on Monday, with stocks of IndiGo and SpiceJet tumbling up to 10% amid concerns over a likely rise in aviation turbine fuel (ATF) prices. The decline reflects growing investor anxiety over escalating geopolitical tensions and their impact on the cost structure of airlines.

The aviation sector has been particularly sensitive to fluctuations in crude oil prices, as fuel accounts for a significant portion of operating expenses. Recent tensions in West Asia, especially involving Iran, have pushed global oil prices higher, raising fears of a steep increase in ATF prices from April. This has triggered a sell-off in airline stocks, which are directly exposed to fuel cost volatility.

Market data shows that airline stocks have been under sustained pressure since the start of the ongoing conflict. Shares of IndiGo have declined significantly in recent weeks,



while SpiceJet has witnessed even sharper losses. The prolonged weakness highlights investor concerns over profitability, as rising fuel costs can squeeze margins in an already competitive industry.

The situation is further complicated by the strategic importance of the Strait of Hormuz, a key global oil transit route through which a substantial portion of the world's crude supply passes. Any disruption in this region can lead to sharp spikes in oil prices, directly impacting aviation fuel costs and, in turn, airline earnings.

Analysts note that the current environment poses multiple challenges for airline companies. Apart from higher fuel costs, carriers are also dealing

with operational disruptions, route changes, and uncertain demand patterns due to geopolitical instability. These factors have combined to weaken investor sentiment towards the sector.

Despite the near-term pressure, some experts believe airlines may attempt to pass on rising costs to passengers through fare hikes or fuel surcharges. However, the ability to do so remains limited in a price-sensitive market like India, where demand can be affected by even modest increases in ticket prices.

Overall, the outlook for airline stocks remains cautious in the short term. Much will depend on the trajectory of global crude oil prices and the resolution of geopolitical tensions. Until there is clarity on these fronts, aviation stocks are likely to remain volatile, with investors closely monitoring developments in the energy markets and their impact on airline profitability.

Markets Crash as Bears Take Control; Sensex Tanks 1,837 Points



Indian equity markets witnessed a sharp sell-off on Monday, with benchmark indices plunging amid weak global cues and rising geopolitical tensions. The BSE Sensex dropped 1,837 points to close around 72,696, while the NSE Nifty slipped below the crucial 22,550 mark, reflecting strong bearish sentiment across Dalal Street.

The market downturn was broad-based, with heavy selling seen across sectors. Realty, capital goods, consumer durables, metals, telecom, and PSU banking stocks were among the worst hit, declining sharply. Other sectors such as auto, energy, oil & gas, and private banks also recorded notable losses, indicating widespread pressure across the market.

One of the key factors behind the sharp fall was escalating geopolitical tensions in the Middle East, which have significantly impacted global investor sentiment. Rising crude oil prices, driven by ongoing conflict in the region, have added to inflation concerns and increased uncertainty for oil-importing countries like India.

The Indian rupee also came under pressure, hitting a fresh record low against the US dollar.

Currency weakness further dampened investor confidence, as it raises concerns about capital outflows and higher import costs.

Foreign institutional investors (FIIs) continued their selling spree, pulling money out of Indian equities amid global risk aversion. This sustained outflow has been a major contributor to the recent volatility in domestic markets. At the same time, rising US bond yields and a stronger dollar have made emerging markets like India less attractive to global investors.

Market volatility also surged, with investors adopting a cautious approach amid uncertainty. Analysts believe that the near-term outlook remains fragile, with key support levels for the Nifty seen around 22,500. A breach of this level could trigger further downside in the market.

Despite the sharp correction, experts advise investors to avoid panic selling and instead focus on long-term fundamentals. While current conditions remain challenging, the broader market outlook will largely depend on global developments, especially the trajectory of geopolitical tensions and crude oil prices.

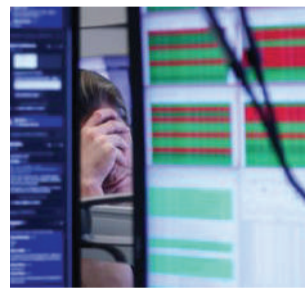
Iran War Shakes Markets: Gold Falls, Stocks Slide, Crypto Holds

The ongoing conflict involving Iran has triggered an unusual and volatile reaction across global financial markets, disrupting traditional investment patterns. Unlike past geopolitical crises, where safe-haven assets typically rally, the current situation has seen gold, bonds, and equities behave in unexpected ways.

Equity markets across the world have largely remained under pressure since the conflict escalated. Major indices in Asia and the US have recorded declines, reflecting investor uncertainty and risk aversion. While occasional signs of de-escalation have led to brief recoveries, these gains have been short-lived, with markets quickly slipping back into negative territory amid ongoing tensions.

One of the most surprising trends has been the decline in gold prices. Traditionally considered a safe-haven asset during crises, gold has instead fallen sharply, touching multi-month lows. This shift is largely driven by rising inflation expectations and increasing bond yields, which reduce the appeal of non-yielding assets like gold. A stronger US dollar has further added pressure, making gold more expensive for global investors.

Government bonds, another conventional refuge during uncertain times, have also defied expectations. Instead of rallying, bond yields have risen significantly, indicating selling pressure. This reflects growing concerns that central banks, particularly the Federal Reserve, may main-



tain higher interest rates for longer due to inflationary pressures linked to rising oil prices.

The surge in oil prices has been a central factor shaping market movements. The conflict has disrupted energy supplies and heightened fears of prolonged inflation, creating a complex macroeconomic environment. These conditions have made investors cautious, as higher energy costs can slow economic growth while pushing prices upward.

Interestingly, cryptocurrencies have shown relative resilience compared to traditional assets. While still volatile, digital assets have held up better than equities and gold in certain phases of the conflict, suggesting a gradual shift in investor perception towards alternative asset classes.

Overall, the conflict has created a highly unpredictable market environment where traditional rules no longer apply. Investors are navigating a mix of geopolitical risks, inflation concerns, and monetary policy uncertainty. Analysts believe that until there is clarity on the duration of the conflict and the direction of global interest rates, volatility across asset classes is likely to persist.

SBI Mutual Fund Leads Growth Race with Strong Rural Push



SBI Mutual Fund has emerged as the fastest-growing asset management company among its peers, driven by strong expansion beyond metro cities and a powerful distribution network. The fund house has outperformed rivals in revenue, profitability, and retail participation over the past three years, signaling a shift in how growth is being generated in India's mutual fund industry.

The company's financial performance has been robust, with revenue rising sharply over recent years, supported by a significant increase in assets under management (AUM). Profit growth has been even stronger, reflecting improved operational efficiency and scale benefits. This performance has helped SBI Mutual Fund stay ahead of other major players in the sector.

A key driver of this growth has been the rising contribution from B30 locations—cities beyond the top 30 urban centres. The company has built a strong pres-

ence in these markets, where retail participation in mutual funds is expanding rapidly. Assets from B30 locations have grown faster than those from top cities, highlighting a structural shift in investor behaviour across smaller towns and semi-urban regions.

SBI Mutual Fund currently holds a leading share in the B30 segment, benefiting from early expansion and strong brand recognition. This growth is supported by increasing financial awareness, higher disposable incomes, and a growing preference for market-linked investments among investors outside major metros.

Another major advantage for the fund house has been its extensive distribution network. With access to thousands of bank branches, a wide network of distributors, and a strong digital presence covering most parts of the country, SBI Mutual Fund has been able to reach investors across diverse geographies. This wide reach has played a crucial role in driving consist-

ent inflows and expanding its customer base.

The company has also benefited from its leadership in passive investment products and institutional mandates. While these segments typically generate lower fees, they contribute significantly to overall scale and help boost profits through operating leverage.

However, analysts note that the increasing share of passive assets may put some pressure on margins over time, as these products tend to have lower yields compared to actively managed funds. Despite this, the company's strong growth trajectory and efficient cost structure have helped maintain healthy profitability levels.

Overall, SBI Mutual Fund's success reflects a broader trend in India's financial landscape, where growth is increasingly coming from smaller cities and digital channels. As financial inclusion deepens, the company appears well-positioned to sustain its leadership in the evolving mutual fund market.

Viral Lookalike Clears the Air: "I'm Not Epstein, I'm Just Palm Beach Pete"



A Florida man who recently became an internet sensation due to his uncanny resemblance to disgraced financier Jeffrey Epstein has finally spoken out, putting an end to widespread online speculation. Known on social media as "Palm Beach Pete," the man found himself at the center of a viral storm after a short video of him driving went viral, with many users claiming Epstein was still alive.

The clip, reportedly filmed on a highway, showed Pete casually driving a convertible while wearing a backward baseball cap. The person recording the video repeatedly suggested that Epstein had been spotted alive, fueling conspiracy theories and sparking millions of views across platforms. The resemblance was striking enough that many viewers were convinced the controversial figure had somehow resurfaced.

However, Pete has firmly denied these claims. In a response video shared online, he introduced himself and addressed the rumors directly, stating clearly that he is not Epstein. He explained that he had no idea he was being filmed at the time and only realized what had happened hours later when his phone was flooded with notifications.

According to him, the sudden at-

tention was overwhelming. What started as a random moment on the road quickly turned into a viral phenomenon, drastically changing his daily life. He revealed that strangers now recognize him in public, often approaching him for photos or questioning his identity.

Pete described the experience as surreal, noting how quickly misinformation can spread online. He expressed surprise at how easily people believed the claims, despite there being no factual basis behind them. The incident highlights the power of social media in amplifying rumors and the speed at which false narratives can gain traction.

The confusion largely stems from Epstein's notoriety and the lingering public fascination surrounding his life and death. Epstein, who died in 2019 while awaiting trial on serious criminal charges, continues to be the subject of numerous conspiracy theories.

In the end, Pete's message is simple: he is just an ordinary individual who happens to resemble a well-known figure. While the internet may have briefly turned him into a viral mystery, he hopes his clarification will finally put the rumors to rest.

"One Month, Endless Chaos": Why March 2026 Feels Like an Entire Year Online



March 2026 has taken over social media conversations, with many users joking that the single month feels as long and eventful as an entire year. From global tensions to academic stress and cultural moments, the sheer volume and pace of events have left people both overwhelmed and amused.

Across platforms, users have been sharing memes and posts highlighting how packed the month has been. Many point out that major developments—ranging from geopolitical conflicts to exam season pressures—have all collided within a short span of time. The combination has created a sense that time is moving unusually fast, while also feeling stretched due to the intensity of daily updates.

One of the biggest contributors to this feeling is the ongoing global uncertainty. News related to international conflicts has dominated headlines, keeping people constantly engaged with serious developments. At the same time, students in many regions are dealing with crucial exams, adding personal stress to an already heavy news cycle.

Social media has amplified this perception. With constant notifications, trending topics, and viral discussions, users are exposed to a nonstop stream

of information. What might have once felt like events spread over several months are now being consumed within days or even hours. This rapid flow of content has made March feel unusually dense and emotionally exhausting for many.

Memes have played a major role in shaping the narrative. Users are humorously comparing March 2026 to a "full year," sharing posts that list everything that has happened so far in the month. Others joke about feeling mentally drained, as if they've already lived through several phases of a year in just a few weeks.

The phenomenon also reflects a broader trend of how people experience time in the digital age. With information constantly at their fingertips, individuals are more aware of global and local events than ever before. This heightened awareness can make periods of intense activity feel longer and more significant.

Ultimately, the online reaction to March 2026 highlights how perception of time is influenced not just by the calendar, but by the volume and impact of events. While the month may only have 31 days, for many on the internet, it already feels like they've lived through much more.

Lost at Birth, Found After 28 Years: Woman Reunites With Biological Family

In a deeply emotional story of separation and reunion, a Chinese woman raised in the Netherlands has finally met her biological parents after nearly three decades. Her journey, marked by loss, uncertainty, and hope, highlights the power of persistence and modern technology in reconnecting families.

The woman, identified as Hong Yangli, was abandoned shortly after birth under tragic circumstances. According to reports, her grandfather, influenced by a preference for a male heir, took the newborn away from her mother under the pretense of caring for her. Instead, he left the infant in a public place in a nearby village, an act that would separate mother and daughter for 28 long years.

Just two days old, the baby was discovered crying by a passerby and taken to a welfare home. She was left with a small amount of money, milk powder, and a note containing her date of birth—clues that would later become crucial in uncovering her identity. Soon after, she was adopted by a Dutch couple and



grew up in the Netherlands, far removed from her origins in China.

Despite having a stable upbringing, questions about her roots remained. As she grew older, the desire to understand her past and find her biological family became stronger. In December 2024, she took a significant step by submitting her DNA to a Chinese database designed to help locate miss-

ing children and reconnect families.

The decision proved life-changing. The DNA match eventually led authorities to her biological parents, who had spent years wondering about the fate of their daughter. Her mother revealed that the day her child was taken away was the last time she saw her, carrying the pain of that loss for decades.

The reunion, when it

finally happened, was filled with overwhelming emotions. After 28 years of separation, mother and daughter were able to meet face-to-face, bridging a gap created by circumstances beyond their control. The moment symbolized closure, healing, and a second chance at building a relationship.

This story sheds light on the lasting impact of cultural pressures and

the consequences of gender bias, while also offering a message of hope. Advances in DNA technology are increasingly helping people uncover long-lost connections, turning what once seemed impossible into reality.

For Hong, the reunion marks not just the end of a long search, but the beginning of a new chapter—one that reconnects her with her past while shaping her future.

"Find Me a Flat, Get Paid": Frustrated Bengaluru Tenant's Unique Offer Goes Viral

A frustrated house-hunter in Bengaluru has caught the internet's attention after making an unusual offer—promising to pay half a month's rent to anyone who helps them find a suitable home. The post, shared on social media, reflects the growing challenges of finding affordable housing in the city's competitive rental market.

The tenant, struggling to secure a 3BHK apartment, took to Reddit with a straightforward yet striking proposal. They offered a financial reward to literally anyone who could connect them with a suitable property, saying they were "super frustrated" after an exhausting search. The requirement was specific: a good 2.5 or 3BHK flat in prime areas such as Koramangala or HSR Layout.

The budget mentioned in the post ranged between ₹45,000 and ₹48,000 per month. However, even with this relatively high budget, the user found it



extremely difficult to find a suitable option in preferred locations. The post quickly gained traction, with many users reacting to both the desperation and creativity behind the offer.

Social media users responded with a mix of sympathy and realism. While some shared potential leads and tried to

help, many pointed out that finding a 3BHK within that budget in these areas is increasingly rare. The discussion highlighted how rising rents and high demand have made house-hunting in Bengaluru a stressful experience for many residents.

The viral post also sparked a broader conversation about the city's

rental crisis. Over the past few years, Bengaluru has seen a sharp rise in housing costs, especially in tech-centric neighborhoods. Many tenants have complained about inflated rents, unusual conditions set by landlords, and limited availability of spacious homes.

This is not an isolated case. Similar viral posts

in the past have shown how renters are often forced to stretch their budgets or compromise on location and amenities. The increasing demand for larger homes, particularly 3BHK apartments, has further pushed prices upward, making them inaccessible for many middle-income tenants.

The tenant's offer, though unconventional, reflects a deeper issue—how difficult it has become to secure a decent home even with a substantial budget. It also shows how social media is increasingly being used as a tool for problem-solving, where users turn to the internet for help beyond traditional brokers and listings.

In the end, the post is both a humorous and telling snapshot of urban life in Bengaluru—where finding the right home can feel like winning a jackpot, and sometimes, even that requires a reward.

"You're Underselling Your City": Mumbaikar Praises Delhi After 14 Years

A lifelong resident of Mumbai has gone viral online after sharing an unexpectedly positive experience of visiting Delhi, saying the capital is far better than people often claim. His remarks have sparked fresh debate in the long-standing rivalry between the two cities.

In a widely shared Reddit post, the traveller revealed that he had visited Delhi after a gap of 14 years and was "humbled" by how much the city had improved. What stood out most to him was the overall infrastructure, which he described as more advanced and well-planned than he had anticipated.

One of the biggest highlights of his visit was the city's metro system. He praised its scale, efficiency, and connectivity, noting that it made commuting significantly easier compared to what he was used to. The metro, in particular, left a strong impression, contributing to his changed perception of the capital.

The visitor also pointed out that Delhi felt cleaner



than expected. While the city often faces criticism for pollution and congestion, he said his personal experience was quite different. He noticed better-maintained public spaces and an overall sense of order that challenged his

earlier assumptions.

Another aspect that surprised him was the weather. Compared to Mumbai's humid climate, Delhi's conditions felt more pleasant during his visit. This added to his overall positive impression and made

his stay more enjoyable.

He also observed differences in how the two cities are structured. According to him, Delhi has a clearer separation between different types of neighborhoods, whereas Mumbai tends to have a more

mixed urban layout. This distinction gave Delhi a more organized feel in his view.

His post quickly gained traction, with many social media users agreeing that Delhi is often unfairly criticized. Others, however, pointed out that experiences can vary depending on the area and time of visit, and that both cities have their own strengths and challenges.

The viral reaction reflects how deeply people identify with their cities, especially when it comes to Mumbai and Delhi—two of India's most iconic urban centers. While Mumbai is known for its fast-paced life and financial importance, Delhi is often associated with its history, political significance, and expanding infrastructure.

In the end, the traveller's message was simple but impactful: sometimes, cities are judged more by reputation than reality. And in his experience, Delhi turned out to be far more impressive than he had imagined.

Indian Premier League Stands Firm on Schedule Amid Overseas Player Concerns



The Indian Premier League has made it clear that the 2026 season will proceed as scheduled, despite growing uncertainty over the availability of overseas players. The league's governing body has stated that it is ultimately up to individual franchises to manage their squads and deal with player absences.

With the tournament set to begin soon, several teams are facing challenges due to injuries, workload management, and personal commitments affecting foreign players. High-profile names from countries like Australia, England, and New Zealand are either expected to miss the initial matches or join their teams late. This has created lo-

gistical concerns for franchises that rely heavily on international talent.

Despite these issues, the league has indicated that there are no plans to alter the schedule. Officials have emphasized that franchises were aware of potential uncertainties during the auction and must now adapt accordingly. The responsibility of building balanced squads, including backup options, lies with the teams themselves.

The absence or delayed arrival of overseas players has already forced teams to rethink their strategies. Many franchises are likely to depend more on domestic players in the early stages of the tournament. This could also

open opportunities for young Indian talent to step up and make an impact.

Cricket experts and former players have also weighed in on the situation. Some have criticized overseas players for not fully committing to the tournament, urging franchises to take stricter action in future auctions. Concerns have been raised that frequent pull-outs or late arrivals can disrupt team planning and affect the competitive balance of the league.

At the same time, factors such as international cricket schedules, injury management, and national board restrictions continue to influence player availability. These issues highlight the

complex relationship between global cricket commitments and franchise leagues like the IPL.

While uncertainty remains, the league's firm stance on sticking to the schedule reflects its confidence in the depth of talent available. The IPL has historically managed similar challenges, and organizers believe the tournament will continue to deliver high-quality cricket.

Overall, the 2026 season is expected to begin amid some disruptions, but with franchises adapting to evolving circumstances. The focus will now be on how teams manage their resources and navigate the early phase of the competition without key overseas players.

PSL in Trouble as Armed Group Threatens Foreign Players

The Pakistan Super League 2026 season has been hit by a major security scare after an armed group in Pakistan issued threats to several international cricketers, including David Warner and Steve Smith, urging them to withdraw from the tournament.

According to reports, the militant group Jamaat-ul-Ahrar warned overseas players that their safety could not be guaranteed if they travel to Pakistan for the league. The group reportedly issued a public statement asking foreign players to withdraw immediately, raising serious concerns about security arrangements for the high-profile T20 competition.

The development has cast uncertainty over the participation of several international stars from countries such as Australia, England, and New Zealand. Apart from Warner and Smith, other overseas players scheduled to take part in the tournament have also been put on alert, with cricket boards and franchises closely monitoring the situation.



The Pakistan Cricket Board has already taken precautionary measures ahead of the tournament. Matches are set to be held in limited venues like Lahore and Karachi, and reportedly without spectators, in an effort to minimize risks. Authorities are also expected to deploy enhanced security arrangements

to ensure the safety of players and officials.

The timing of the threat is particularly concerning, as the PSL 2026 season is scheduled to begin soon. The tournament, one of Pakistan's premier sporting events, relies heavily on the participation of international players to maintain its competi-

tive quality and global appeal.

This is not the first time security concerns have affected cricket in Pakistan. In the past, international teams avoided touring the country for several years following security incidents. Although Pakistan has gradually regained its status as a host for international cricket, such threats risk undermining those efforts.

The latest development also comes amid broader geopolitical tensions in the region, further complicating the situation. With rising uncertainty, several players may reconsider their participation, and teams could be forced to make last-minute changes to their squads.

As of now, there has been no official confirmation of withdrawals, but the situation remains fluid. Much will depend on security assessments and assurances provided to players in the coming days.

Overall, the threat has put the PSL under significant pressure, raising questions about player safety and the smooth conduct of the tournament.

PSL-IPL Clash Deepens as Naqvi Warns Players

The ongoing clash between the Pakistan Super League and the Indian Premier League has intensified after Pakistan Cricket Board chief Mohsin Naqvi issued a strong warning to players withdrawing from PSL to join the IPL.

The controversy erupted after several overseas cricketers pulled out of PSL commitments at the last minute to take up replacement roles in IPL franchises. Sri Lanka all-rounder Dasun Shanaka became the latest example, leaving his PSL team to join Rajasthan Royals as a replacement player. Similarly, Zimbabwe pacer Blessing Muzarabani also exited PSL to link up with Kolkata Knight Riders in the IPL.

Reacting sharply, Naqvi stated that strict action would be taken against players who violate their PSL contracts. He emphasized that last-minute withdrawals disrupt team balance and undermine the league's credibility. The PCB is reportedly considering legal measures and enforcement of contractual rules to prevent such situations in the future.

The issue highlights the growing competition between the two



T20 leagues, which are scheduled to overlap once again this season. With the IPL offering significantly higher financial incentives and global exposure, several players are prioritising it over PSL, even after committing

to teams in Pakistan.

Despite the setbacks, Naqvi maintained that the PSL continues to attract top international talent. He pointed out that many high-profile players are still participating in the tournament,

Axar Patel Defends Team India's Temple Visit Tradition



Indian cricketer Axar Patel has backed the tradition of players from the India national cricket team visiting temples during tours and tournaments, stating that such practices should not be viewed negatively. His remarks come amid ongoing discussions around the team's off-field routines, particularly their visits to religious places during major events.

Speaking on the matter, Patel said that visiting temples is a personal choice and often depends on individual beliefs and convenience. He emphasized that players usually take advantage of opportunities when security arrangements make such visits possible. According to him, it is not something that is forced or mandated, but rather a voluntary activity undertaken by those who wish to do so.

The all-rounder highlighted that during international tournaments or overseas tours, players often have limited chances to explore local places. In such situations, visiting temples becomes an occasion not just for spiritual reasons but also as a way to experience different cultures and traditions. He added that such visits are usually planned based on the team's schedule and do not interfere with their professional commitments.

Patel's comments come after members of the Indian team were seen visit-

ing temples during recent global tournaments, including the T20 World Cup. These visits had sparked mixed reactions on social media, with some questioning the relevance of such activities in a professional sporting environment. However, others defended the players, stating that personal beliefs should be respected.

Responding indirectly to the criticism, Patel made it clear that there is nothing wrong with players engaging in activities that provide them mental peace and comfort. He noted that maintaining a positive mindset is crucial in high-pressure tournaments, and if visiting a place of worship helps players stay focused and calm, it should not be discouraged.

He also pointed out that similar practices are followed by athletes across different sports and countries, where players engage in personal rituals or routines before important matches. Such habits, he said, are often part of an athlete's preparation and mental conditioning.

Overall, Patel's remarks underline the importance of respecting individual choices within a team environment. While the primary focus remains on performance on the field, he believes that allowing players the freedom to follow their beliefs contributes to a balanced and healthy team atmosphere.

Bangladesh Players' PSL Participation in Doubt Over Security Concerns



The participation of Bangladesh national cricket team players in the Pakistan Super League 2026 season has come under serious doubt due to rising security concerns linked to ongoing regional tensions. The situation has prompted authorities in Bangladesh to adopt a cautious approach, prioritising player safety over tournament commitments.

The uncertainty stems from the escalating conflict involving Iran, Israel, and the United States, which has impacted security conditions in the region. In response, the Pakistan Cricket Board has already made significant adjustments to the tournament's arrangements. Matches have been limited to key venues such as Karachi and Lahore, while initial games are set to be played behind closed doors to minimise risks.

Amid these developments, Bangladesh's State Minister for Youth and Sports has made it clear that the government will not allow its players to travel if there are any credible security threats. Officials have stressed that a final decision will only be taken after consultations with the Bangladesh Cricket Board and national security agencies.

This cautious stance has put the future of several Bangladeshi cricketers in the PSL in jeopardy. While some players had earlier shown interest or received initial approvals to participate, the evolving situation has forced authorities to reconsider their in-

volvement. The uncertainty is likely to impact team combinations, as franchises may have to look for last-minute replacements if players withdraw.

The issue also reflects a broader challenge facing the PSL this season. Apart from Bangladesh players, several overseas cricketers are already reconsidering their participation due to safety concerns and geopolitical instability. The combination of security risks and scheduling conflicts with other leagues has created a difficult environment for organisers.

For Bangladesh, the priority remains the safety and well-being of its players. Government officials have reiterated that no decision will be rushed, and participation will only be approved if conditions are deemed fully secure. This approach aligns with the country's recent stance on international cricket events, where safety assessments have played a key role in decision-making.

The situation highlights the increasing influence of geopolitical tensions on global sports. Cricket leagues, especially those involving international travel, are becoming more vulnerable to external factors such as security risks and political conflicts.

As the PSL approaches its start date, all eyes are on the final decision from Bangladesh authorities. Whether their players take part or withdraw could significantly impact the tournament's competitiveness and global appeal.

Nandamuri Balakrishna-Vivek Athreya Surprise Combo Creates Buzz

Tollywood is witnessing a surge of excitement as reports suggest a surprising collaboration between Nandamuri Balakrishna and young director Vivek Athreya. The unexpected pairing has quickly become a hot topic in film circles, with fans eagerly discussing the possibilities of this unique combination.

Balakrishna, known for his mass appeal and powerful screen presence, is currently enjoying a strong phase in his career with consecutive successes. At the same time, Vivek Athreya has carved a niche for himself with his distinctive storytelling style and intelligent screenplays. The idea of these two coming together is being seen as a refreshing blend of mass energy and creative narrative depth.

According to industry buzz, Vivek Athreya has reportedly prepared a powerful script for Balakrishna. The film is expected to be a gangster drama, with the actor playing a strong and intense role. This marks an interesting shift, as Balakrishna may be seen in a stylish gangster avatar after many years, adding a new dimension to his on-screen image.

What makes the project even more exciting is the contrast in their filmmaking styles. While Balakrishna is widely associated with high-octane action and mass dialogues, Vivek Athreya is known for his nuanced storytelling and unconventional narratives. If executed well, this combination could deliver a film that balances commercial elements with a fresh, modern approach.

Reports also suggest that the film could be mounted on a large scale, possibly under a lead-

ing production banner, with pre-production work already in early stages. However, an official announcement is still awaited, and details regarding the cast, crew, and timeline remain under wraps.

Currently, Balakrishna is busy with another major project, and the collaboration with Vivek Athreya is expected to begin only after he completes his ongoing commitments. Industry insiders believe that once confirmed, the project could go on floors soon after, depending on scheduling. Fans are particularly excited about how Vivek Athreya will present Balakrishna in a new light. The director is said to be planning a character that goes beyond routine mass elements, offering a mix of style, substance, and strong emotional depth.

Overall, the buzz around this combination highlights the evolving trends in Telugu cinema, where established stars are increasingly collaborating with new-age directors. If the project materialises as expected,

it could turn out to be one of the most intriguing films in Balakrishna's career and a significant milestone for Vivek Athreya.



Pawan Kalyan-Deva Katta Political Thriller Buzz Gains Momentum

A fresh wave of excitement has gripped Tollywood as reports emerge about a possible collaboration between Pawan Kalyan and director Deva Katta for a powerful political thriller. Though not officially confirmed, the project has quickly become one of the most talked-about developments in the film industry.

Known for his sharp storytelling and strong political themes, Deva Katta is said to have prepared a compelling script tailored specifically for Pawan Kalyan. The director, who earned acclaim for films like Prasthanam and Republic, is recognized for his ability to blend intense narratives with social commentary. Reports suggest that he recently narrated a story idea to the actor, which has generated significant interest in film circles.

The potential collaboration is being seen as a perfect match, given Pawan Kalyan's real-life political journey and public image. Analysts believe that combining his ideological stance with Deva Katta's storytelling style could result in a film that goes beyond entertainment and delivers a strong socio-political message. The concept is expected to revolve around contemporary political themes, with impactful dialogues and a gripping narrative.

However, there is still uncertainty surrounding the project's timeline. Pawan Kaly-

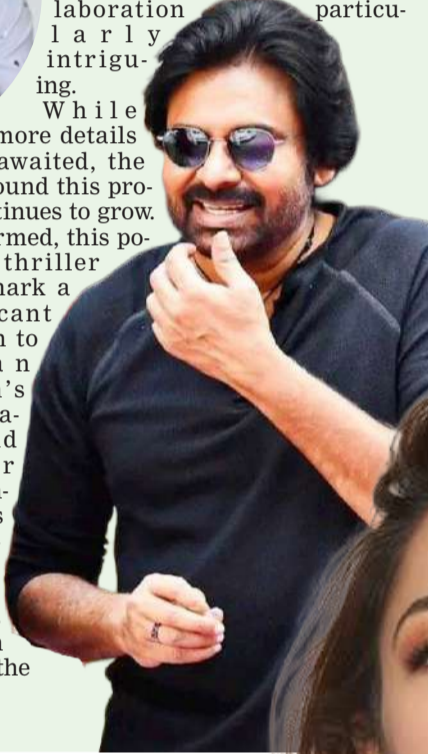
an is currently balancing his responsibilities as a political leader along with selective film commitments, which may delay the film's progress. Additionally, there are indications that he is being cautious about signing new projects, suggesting that the collaboration, if it happens, may take time to materialise.

Despite the lack of official confirmation, the idea of this combination has already sparked strong reactions among fans. The prospect of a politically charged film featuring Pawan Kalyan has raised expectations, with many predicting it could become a landmark project in his career. Industry observers note that if the film moves forward, it has the potential to resonate deeply with audiences due to its relevant themes and powerful presentation.



The synergy between the actor's mass appeal and the director's narrative depth is being viewed as a major strength. Both are known for addressing societal issues in their own ways, making the collaboration particularly intriguing.

While more details are awaited, the buzz around this project continues to grow. If confirmed, this political thriller could mark a significant addition to Pawan Kalyan's filmography and further strengthen his connection with audiences both on and off the screen.



Tamannaah Bhatia Shifts Focus Fully to Bollywood

Tamannaah Bhatia appears to be making a strategic shift in her career, with reports suggesting that she is now focusing entirely on Bollywood projects, moving away from Tollywood commitments for the time being. This decision marks a significant turning point for the actress, who has successfully balanced careers across multiple film industries for over a decade.

Having built a strong presence in Telugu, Tamil, and Hindi cinema, Tamannaah has long been regarded as a pan-India star. However, recent developments indicate that she is now prioritising Hindi films, aligning her career with the growing reach and influence of Bollywood on a global scale. Industry insiders suggest that this move is part of a calculated effort to tap into larger markets and more diverse roles.

The actress has already been actively involved in several Hindi projects in recent times. She was seen in the Bollywood film 'O' Romeo, featuring alongside a prominent ensemble cast, fur-

major Hindi productions.

This shift comes at a time when Tamannaah is enjoying renewed popularity across India, thanks to her performances in recent films and special appearances in chart-topping songs. Her ability to adapt to different genres and industries has been a key factor in sustaining her long career. Now, focusing on Bollywood may offer her more opportunities to experiment with varied roles and reach a wider audience.

Sources suggest that the actress is being selective about her future projects, choosing scripts that offer strong characters and meaningful narratives. This approach reflects a broader trend among actors who are looking to build a more content-driven filmography rather than simply focusing on quantity.

While her decision may disappoint some fans in the South, it does not necessarily indicate a permanent departure. Industry observers believe that Tamannaah could return to regional cinema in the future, depending on the right opportunities. For now, however, her priority appears to be firmly set on Bollywood.

The move also highlights the evolving nature of Indian cinema, where boundaries between industries are increasingly blurred. Actors today are leveraging opportunities across languages and platforms, but at times, strategic focus becomes essential for career growth.

Overall, Tamannaah Bhatia's shift towards Bollywood signals a new phase in her career. With major projects lined up and growing pan-India appeal, she seems poised to strengthen her position in the Hindi film industry in the coming years.



Vijay Deverakonda Heads to Mumbai for 'Rowdy Janardhana' Shoot

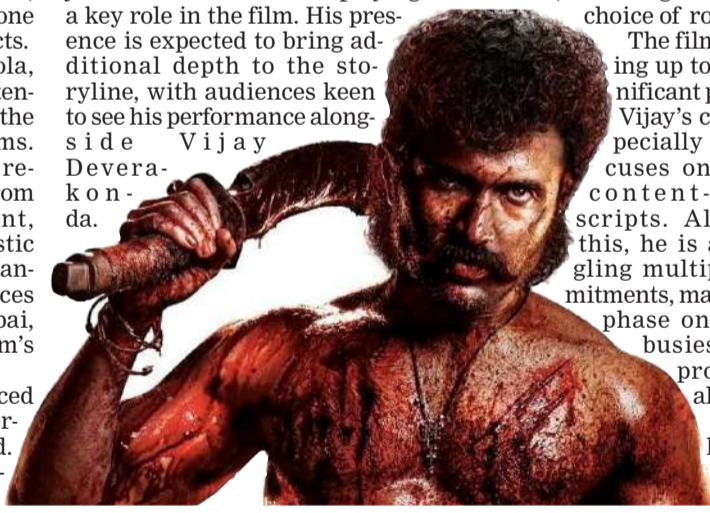
Tollywood star Vijay Deverakonda is gearing up to resume work as he prepares to head to Mumbai for the next schedule of his upcoming film Rowdy Janardhana. The actor is expected to join the shoot soon after returning from a short break, marking the continuation of one of his most anticipated projects.

Directed by Ravi Kiran Kola, the film is said to be a high-intensity action drama set against the backdrop of Mumbai's slums. The narrative reportedly revolves around a young man from a challenging environment, promising a gritty and realistic storyline. The makers are planning to shoot crucial sequences in real locations across Mumbai, adding authenticity to the film's setting.

The project is being produced by Dil Raju and features Keerthy Suresh as the female lead. The film has already generated significant buzz due to its

intense theme and Vijay Deverakonda's transformation for the role. Reports suggest that the actor is undergoing a physical makeover to suit the rugged character he portrays.

Adding to the excitement, Rajasekhar is also said to be playing a key role in the film. His presence is expected to bring additional depth to the storyline, with audiences keen to see his performance alongside Vijay Deverakonda.



Mumbai holds a special connection for Vijay Deverakonda, as he previously worked in the city for his film Liger. Now, returning for Rowdy Janardhana, the actor is expected to deliver a more intense and impactful performance, reflecting his evolving choice of roles.

The film is shaping up to be a significant project in Vijay's career, especially as he focuses on strong, content-driven scripts. Alongside this, he is also juggling multiple commitments, making this phase one of the busiest in his professional journey.

With high expectations

surrounding Rowdy Janardhana, the Mumbai schedule is likely to play a crucial role in defining the film's tone and visual appeal. The use of real locations and a grounded narrative is expected to enhance the film's overall impact.

As shooting progresses, more updates regarding the film's release and additional cast members are likely to be announced. Fans are eagerly waiting to see how Vijay Deverakonda's 'rowdy' avatar unfolds on screen in this action-packed entertainer.

Tovino Thomas's Pallichattambi Set for Pan-India Release

Malayalam star Tovino Thomas is gearing up for a major pan-India outing with his upcoming film Pallichattambi, which is scheduled for a wide theatrical release in April. The film has already generated strong buzz among audiences, especially after its promotional material created excitement across social media platforms. Directed by Diyo Jose Antony, Pallichattambi is a period drama set in the 1950s-60s, offering a blend of intense storytelling and historical backdrop. The film revolves around the lives of migrant farming communities and is expected to present a gripping narrative rooted in realism and strong emotions.

The makers initially planned to release the film on April 9, 2026, as a pan-India project across multiple languages including Malayalam, Telugu, Tamil, Hindi, and Kannada. The wide release strategy reflects the growing trend of regional films targeting a national audience. The film's scale, theme, and production quality are being positioned to appeal beyond the Malayalam-speaking

audience. However, recent updates indicate a slight change in the release schedule, with the film expected to hit theatres on April 10 instead, due to logistical considerations. Despite the minor shift, the anticipation around the project remains high, with fans eagerly awaiting its release. The film stars Kayadu Lohar as the female lead, alongside a strong supporting cast that includes several noted actors. Backed by a skilled technical team, the film features music by Jakes Bejoy, cinematography by Tijo Tomy, and editing by Sreejith Sarang. The makers are aiming to deliver a visually rich cinematic experience that captures the essence of the period setting.

One of the major highlights of Pallichattambi is Tovino Thomas's transformation for the role. Known for experimenting with diverse characters, the actor is said to be portraying a powerful and layered role, which could mark another significant milestone in his career. His growing popularity across India has also contributed to the film's pan-India



appeal. With strong content, a unique backdrop, and a wide release plan, Pallichattambi is shaping up to be one of the most anticipated films of the year. The film's success could further strengthen the trend of Malayalam cinema expanding into the national market. As the release date approaches, expectations continue to rise, with audiences looking forward to a compelling cinematic experience that blends history, drama, and intense storytelling.

ther strengthening her visibility in the Hindi film in-